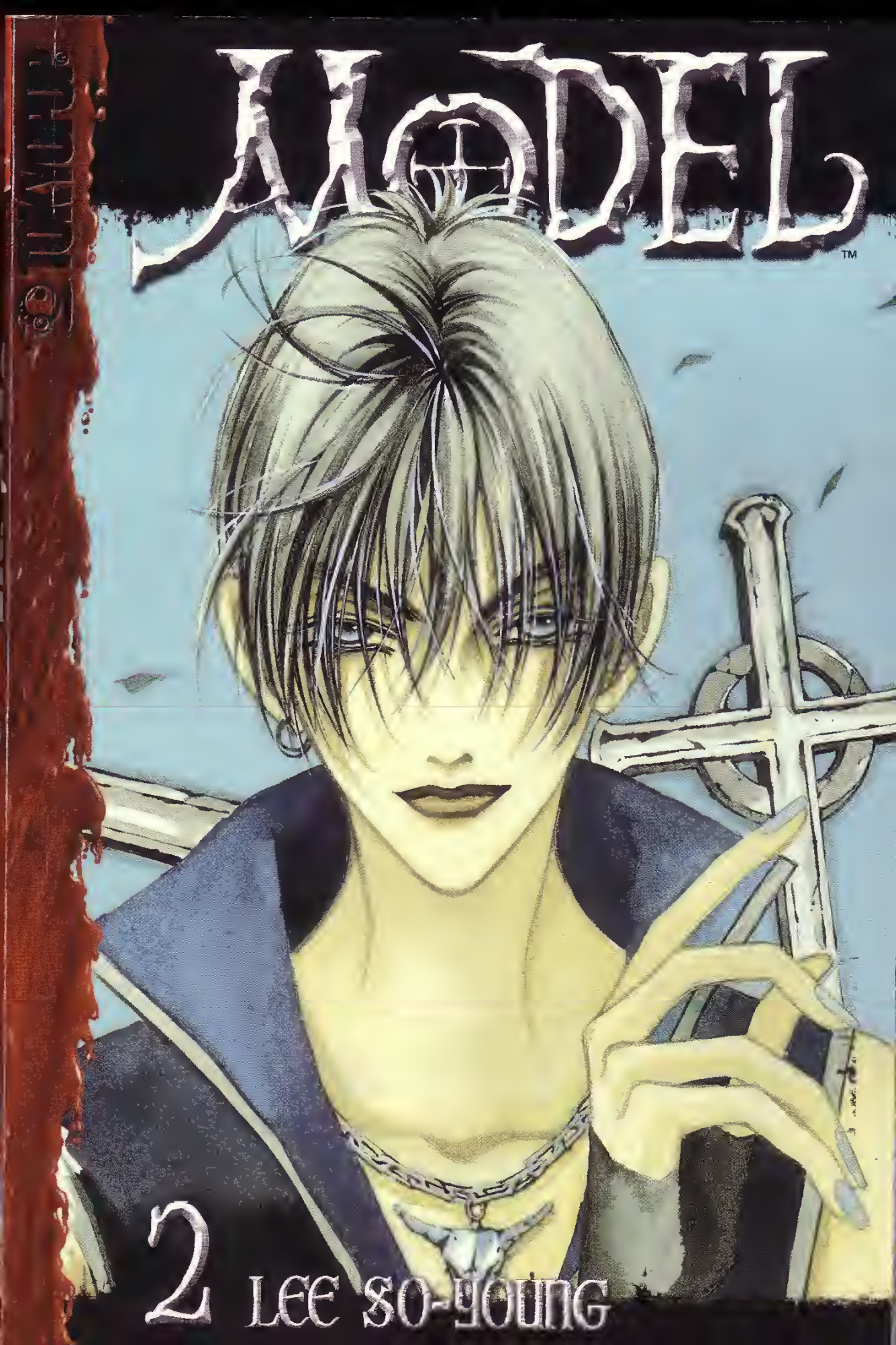
TOKYOPOP
MODEL
2
LEE SO-YOUNG

MODEL

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A TOKYOPOP® Manga

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Los Angeles, CA 90036

Model Vol 2

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ISBN 1-59182-712-4

First TOKYOPOP printing July 2004

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in the USA

MODEL™

VOLUME TWO

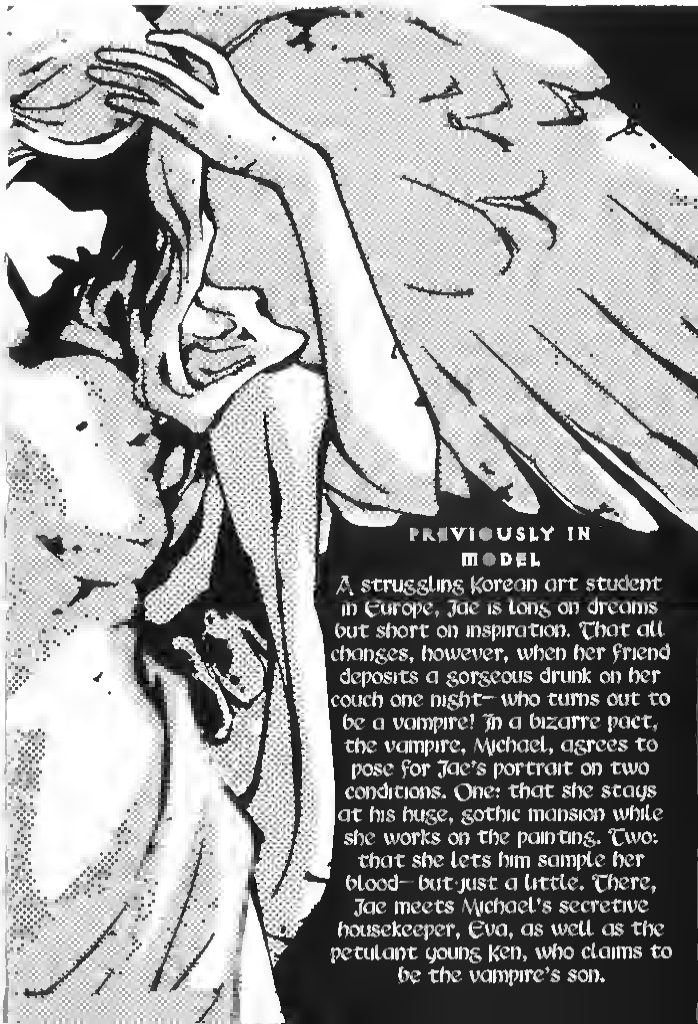
BY

LEE SO-YOUNG

TOKYOPOP®
LOS ANGELES • TOKYO • LONDON • HAMBURG

MODEL: TWO

CHAPTER TWO
MARY.....12



PREVIOUSLY IN MODEL

A struggling Korean art student in Europe, Jae is long on dreams but short on inspiration. That all changes, however, when her friend deposits a gorgeous drunk on her couch one night— who turns out to be a vampire! In a bizarre pact, the vampire, Michael, agrees to pose for Jae's portrait on two conditions. One: that she stays at his huge, gothic mansion while she works on the painting. Two: that she lets him sample her blood— but just a little. There, Jae meets Michael's secretive housekeeper, Eva, as well as the petulant young Ken, who claims to be the vampire's son.

MICHAEL

A Vampire. He has agreed to model for Jae, but she'll pay for his beauty...with blood.

JAE

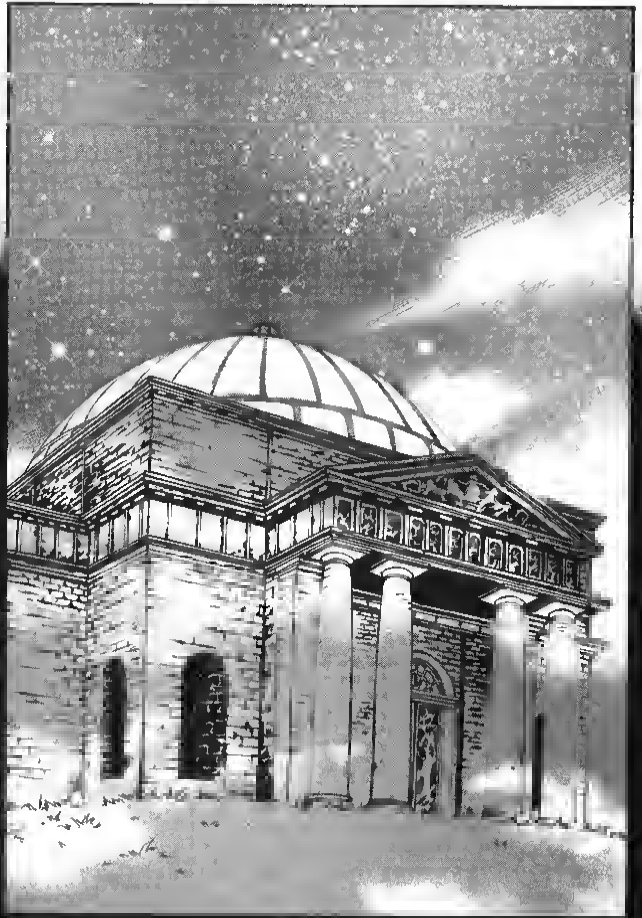
An Artist. She may have found her muse in Michael, but is he her inspiration or her damnation?

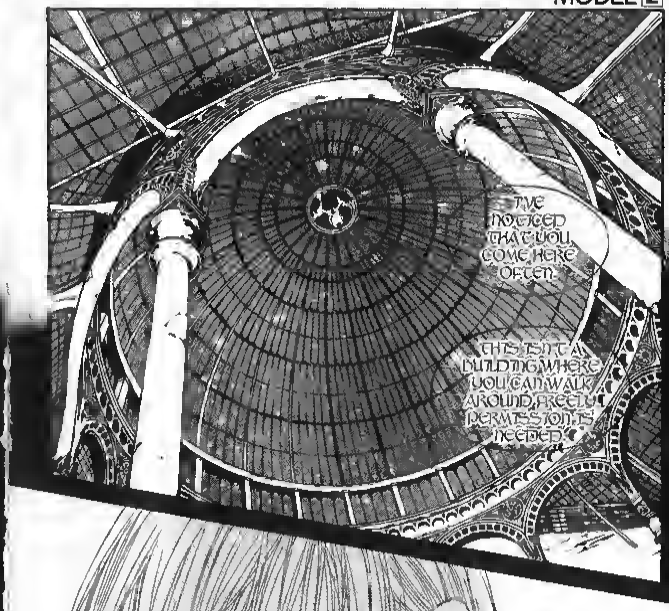
KEN

A Youth. A member of the household who may, or may not, be Michael's prodigal son.

EVA

The Housekeeper. She serves only Michael. But she hasn't always called the vampire "Master."




I'VE NOTICED THAT YOU COME HERE OFTEN.
THIS IS AT A BUILDING WHERE YOU CAN WALK AROUND FREELY PERMISSION IS NEEDED.

THAT INCLUDES YOU.

SINCE YOU'RE ALREADY HERE, LET ME ASK—
WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?
IS IT TO CONTINUE YOUR TRADE FROM YESTERDAY...?
OR SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU MISS MY LOVELY FACE?

YEAH, THAT'S IT
I MISSED YOUR FACE
YOUR SMUG FACE

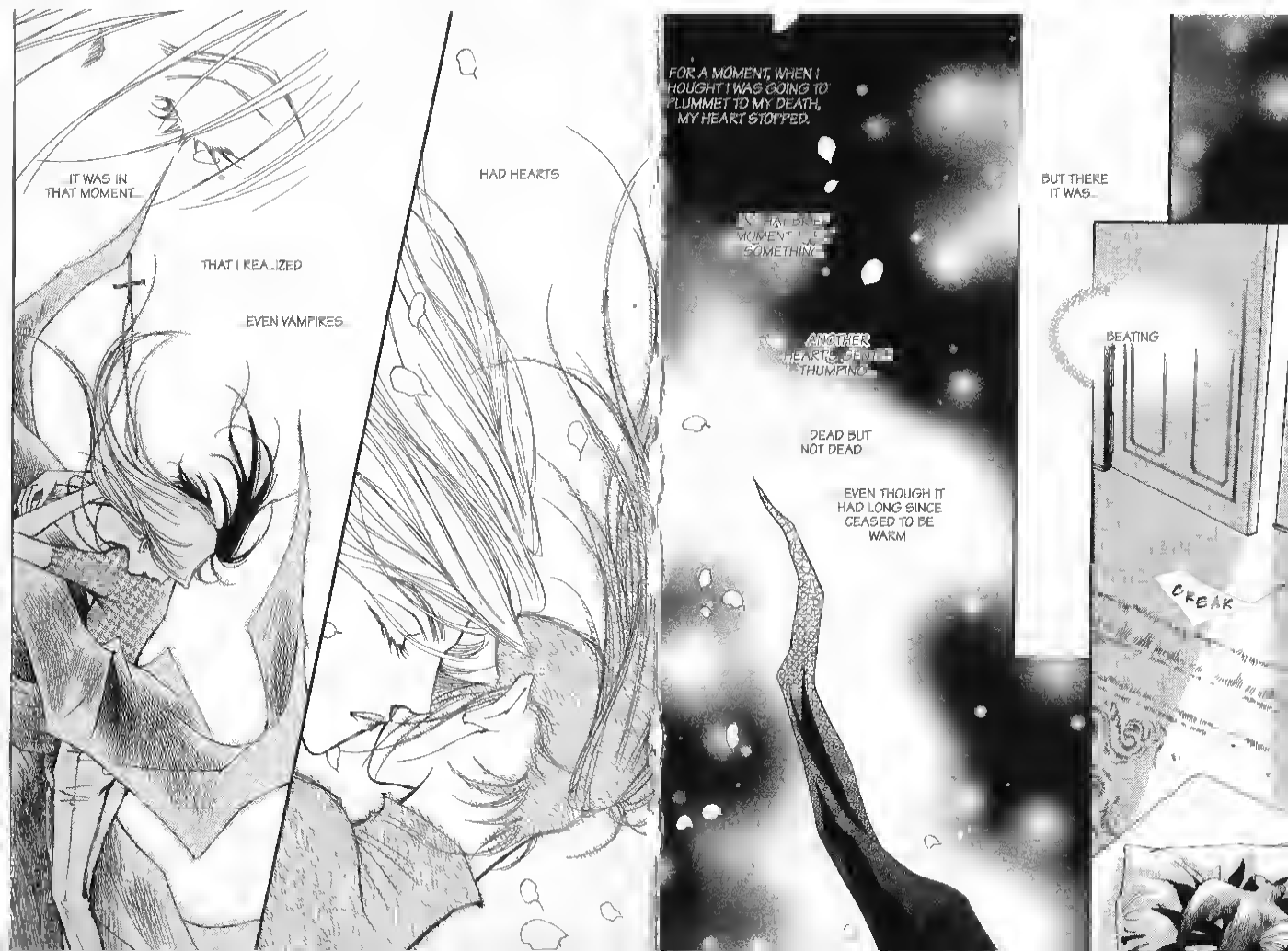
MICHAEL, I HAVE SOMETHING TO ASK YOU
SOMETHING SERIOUS...
IS KEN...

YOUR SON?!
IS HE...
I MEAN... EVA WON'T...
...EVA SAYS SHE'S YOUR HOUSEKEEPER AND UNAWARE OF YOUR SOCIAL LIFE...
BUT IN ORDER TO DRAW YOU ACCURATELY, I NEED TO UNDERSTAND YOU BETTER...
I NEED TO KNOW YOUR LIFE AS A VAMPIRE
I CAN'T DO IT...

I CAN'T ASK HIM.
I MEAN, HOW DO YOU MAKE A LIVING? WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY COME FROM?
IS THAT ALL?
IS THAT WHY YOU LOOK SO DISTRAUGHT?
BECAUSE YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW I CAN AFFORD ALL THIS?

..OF COURSE!
I NEED TO SATISFY MY CURIOSITY. YOU HAVE TO ADMIT, IT'S PRETTY EXTRAVAGANT
HEY!
I'LL BE OK

WHA- WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
STOP IT!
LET GO OF--
OH NO! WE'RE FLOATING... IN MID-AIR!
I'M JUST TRYING TO SATISFY YOUR CURIOSITY.
.AND ALL YOU DO IS SCREAM. YOU BETTER SAVE YOUR ENERGY AND HOLD ON TIGHT.


IT WAS IN THAT MOMENT...
THAT I REALIZED
EVEN VAMPIRES
HAD HEARTS
FOR A MOMENT, WHEN I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO PLUMMET TO MY DEATH, MY HEART STOPPED.
THAT BRIEF MOMENT I... SOMETHING
ANOTHER HEART... SENT THUMPING
DEAD BUT NOT DEAD
EVEN THOUGH IT HAD LONG SINCE CEASED TO BE WARM
BUT THERE IT WAS...
BEATING
CREAK

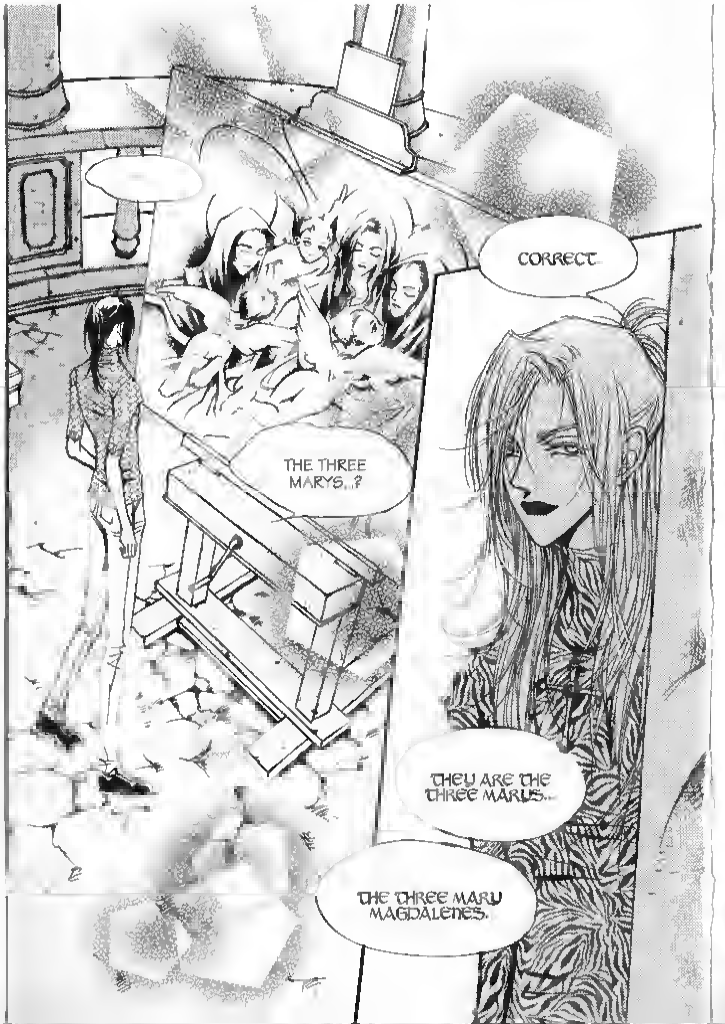
CREAK

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR MISS JAE, SHE'S GONE
SHE SEEMED VERY DISTRAUGHT WHEN SHE LEFT
WHAT DID YOU SAY TO HER?
NOTHING
I'M NOT LOOKING FOR HER

I HAVE NO REASON TO SEARCH FOR HER.
I'M NOT THE ONE SHE'S DRAWING.
BUT YOU SAID SHE APPEARED DISTRAUGHT.
IT'S TRUE. THAT'S MY FAULT.
YOU SEE...
...I TOLD HER ABOUT MY LINEAGE.
!

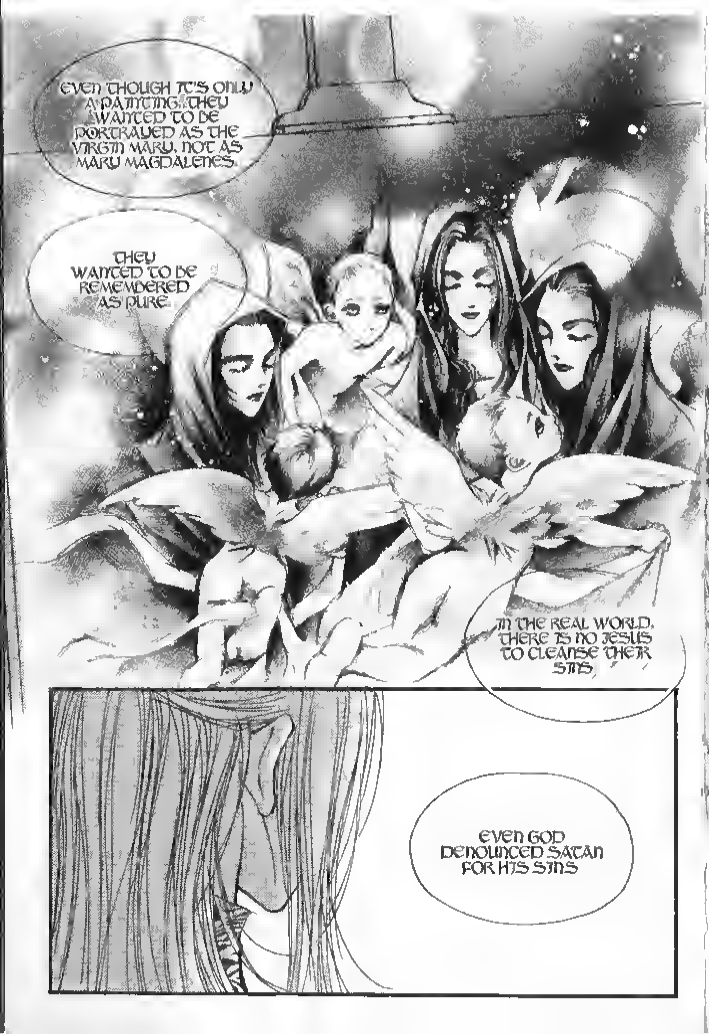
PHT
PAINTS BRUSHES ARE THESE YOURS?
YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT I'M AN ARTIST, SO WHY SO SURPRISED?
IS IT BECAUSE I WOULD CONTINUE TO PAINT ONCE I WAS A VAMPIRE?
DID YOU THINK THAT THE UNDEAD COULDN'T BE INSPIRED?
I SIT HERE ALONE, COMPLETELY ISOLATED FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD. WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO DO?
WOULD YOU LIKE TO LOOK UNDERNEATH THE COVER?
IT'S MY LATEST WORK.
ONCE I BECAME A VAMPIRE, I KNEW...
FLAP
...IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO DRAW ANOTHER LIVING BEING.

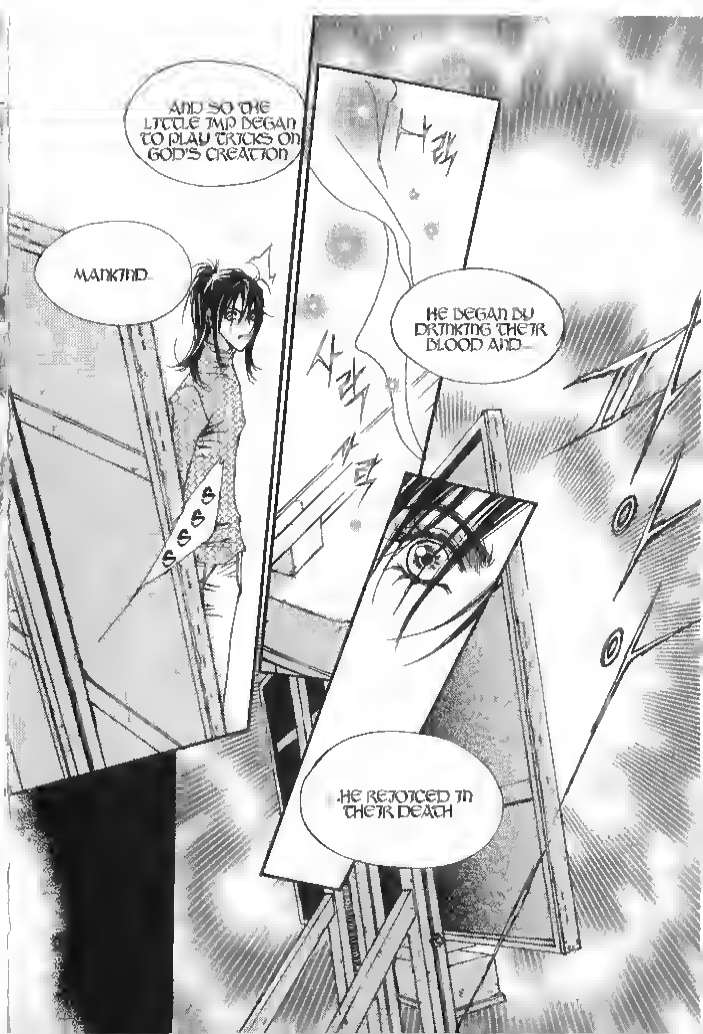
CHAPTER TWO
MARY

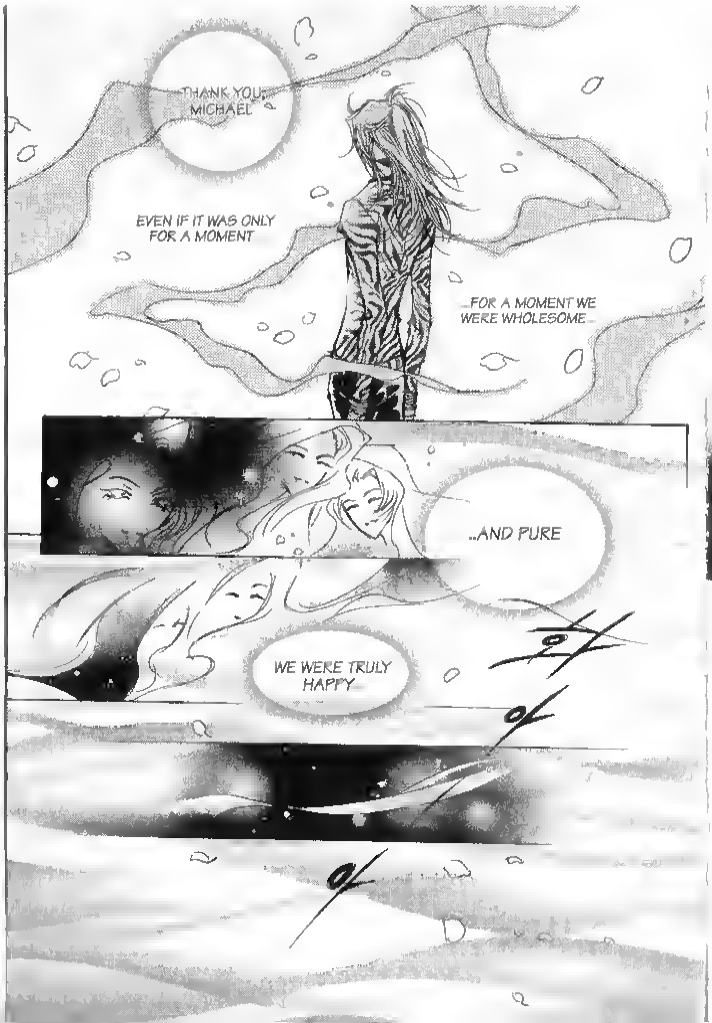


YOU'LL NOTICE...
I'VE DEPICTED THEM AS SAINTLY WOMEN. ONE CAN EASILY ENVISION MARY MAGDALENE AS A SAINT, NO?
AS YOU MIGHT HAVE GUESSED, THEY WERE PROSTITUTES.
THOSE THREE FACES - YOU MUST RECOGNIZE THEM. YOU MET THEM HERE THE OTHER NIGHT.
I NEEDED SINFUL MODELS FOR THIS PAINTING.

MARY MAGDALENE: ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION IN THE CATHOLIC WORLD THAT SHE WAS A SAINT, ONE CAN ENVISION THAT SHE MIGHT HAVE BEEN

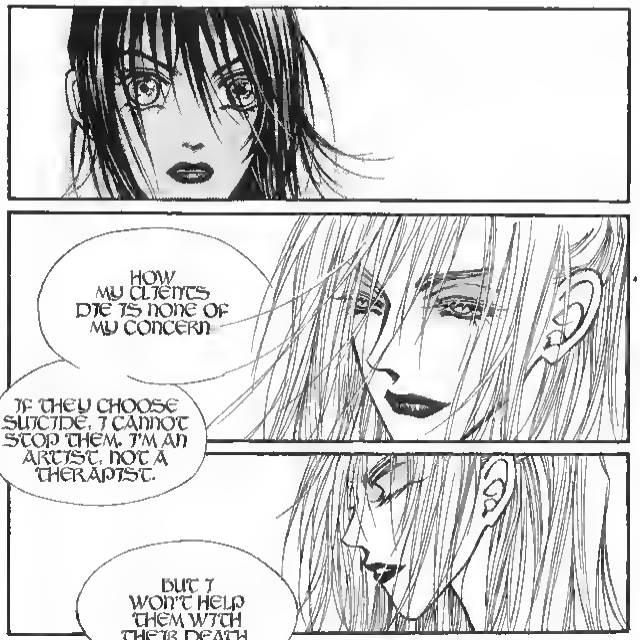

EVEN THOUGH IT'S ONLY A PAINTING, THEY WANTED TO BE PORTRAYED AS THE VIRGIN MARY, NOT AS MARY MAGDALENES.
THEY WANTED TO BE REMEMBERED AS PURE.
IN THE REAL WORLD, THERE IS NO JESUS TO CLEANSE THEIR SINS.
EVEN GOD DENOUNCED SATAN FOR HIS SINS


AND SO THE LITTLE IMP BEGAN TO PLAY TRICKS ON GOD'S CREATION.
MANKIND.
HE BEGAN BY DRINKING THEIR BLOOD AND—
HE REJOICED IN THEIR DEATH


THANK YOU, MICHAEL
EVEN IF IT WAS ONLY FOR A MOMENT
...FOR A MOMENT WE WERE WHOLESOME...
...AND PURE
WE WERE TRULY HAPPY...

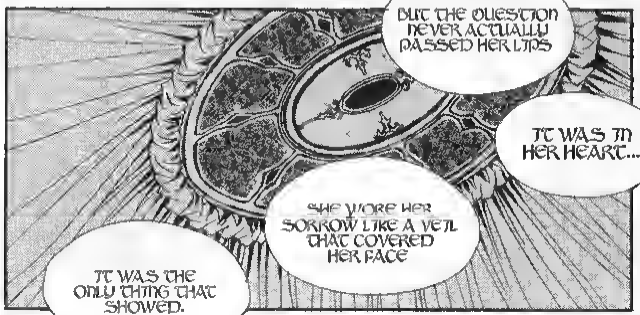
THE PAINTING...
...IT'S GONE
YOU SEE... I CANNOT PAINT LIVING BEINGS
I CAN ONLY PAINT THAT WHICH I KNOW
THE DEAD AND THE DYING.

THIS IS WHAT I DO
MY CLIENTS ARE NEAR THEIR DEATHS WHEN I PAINT THEIR PORTRAITS
THEY DON'T SEEK A PORTRAIT CELEBRATING THEIR LIFE
THEY SEEK ONE CELEBRATING THEIR SOUL
IT'S OUR LAST PARTY.
"LAST PARTY?"
COMPOSE YOURSELF
YOU TAKE THEIR LIVES AS PAYMENT FOR THEIR PORTRAITS?
BE CALM, JAE.
IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!
YOU MISUNDERSTAND
IT'S TRUE. MY PAINTINGS ARE EXPENSIVE. HOWEVER, I DO NOT TAKE "LIVES" AS PAYMENT
I MAY BE A DEMON, BUT I'M NOT A MURDERER.
UNFORTUNATELY, THE THREE MARYS HAD NOTHING ELSE TO OFFER. SO I TOOK THEIR BLOOD.
BUT HOW?
DID THEY COMMIT SUICIDE?


HOW MY CLIENTS DIE IS NONE OF MY CONCERN
IF THEY CHOOSE SUICIDE, I CANNOT STOP THEM. I'M AN ARTIST, NOT A THERAPIST.
BUT I WON'T HELP THEM WITH THEIR DEATH.
HA HA...!
I FEEL AS IF I'M SUFFOCATING.
HA HA HA...!

AND HIS LAUGHTER ONLY SUFFOCATES MY HEART
I FINALLY FEEL AS IF...
I CAN BEGIN HIS PAINTING
BEGINNING WITH HIS EMPTY LAUGHTER.

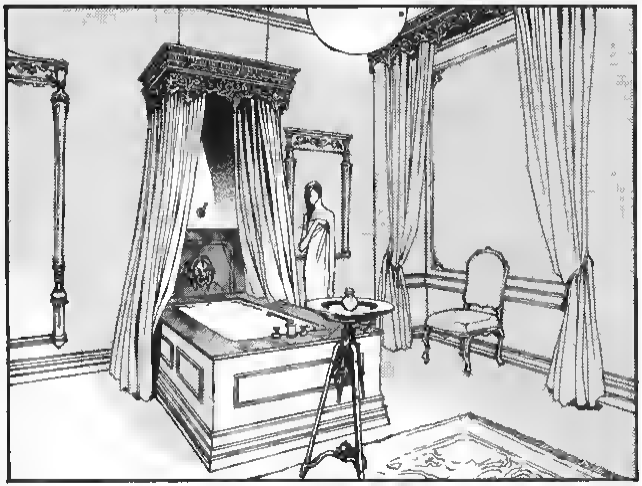
SEE THIS ONE?
SHE ASKED ME FOR HELP.

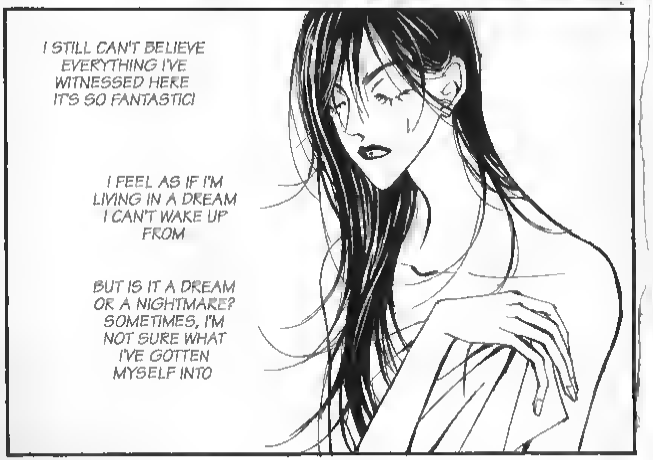

BUT THE QUESTION NEVER ACTUALLY PASSED HER LIPS
IT WAS IN HER HEART...
SHE WORE HER SORROW LIKE A VEIL THAT COVERED HER FACE
IT WAS THE ONLY THING THAT SHOWED.

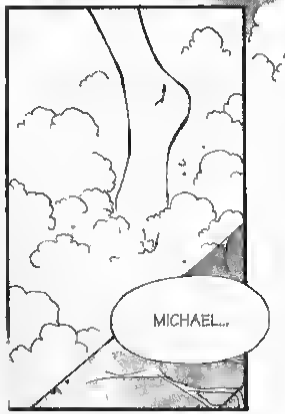
IT WAS KEN.

HE WAS THE SOURCE OF HER DISMAY.

BRING HIM TO ME.
TELL HIM THAT HIS FATHER IS CALLING




I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING I'VE WITNESSED HERE IT'S SO FANTASTIC!
I FEEL AS IF I'M LIVING IN A DREAM I CAN'T WAKE UP FROM
BUT IS IT A DREAM OR A NIGHTMARE? SOMETIMES, I'M NOT SURE WHAT I'VE GOTTEN MYSELF INTO


MICHAEL...

I FIND MYSELF MORE AND MORE EAGER TO LEARN EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU!
NOT JUST FOR MY PAINTING!
BUT MY CURIOSITY ABOUT YOU IS BECOMING INSATIABLE
I WANT TO LEARN YOUR ENTIRE HISTORY. I WANT TO KNOW EVERY DETAIL OF YOUR LIFE!

THERE'S THE CROSS YOU WEAR. YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH KEN. THE SCOPE OF YOUR POWERS...
NOT TO MENTION YOUR ARTWORK. HOW DID THE PAINTING COME TO LIFE!?
SO MANY QUESTIONS UNANSWERED, SO MANY THINGS I DON'T...
?!

OF COURSE!
WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF IT BEFORE?!
THE MOST OBVIOUS QUESTION OF ALL--
HOW DID YOU BECOME A VAMPIRE?

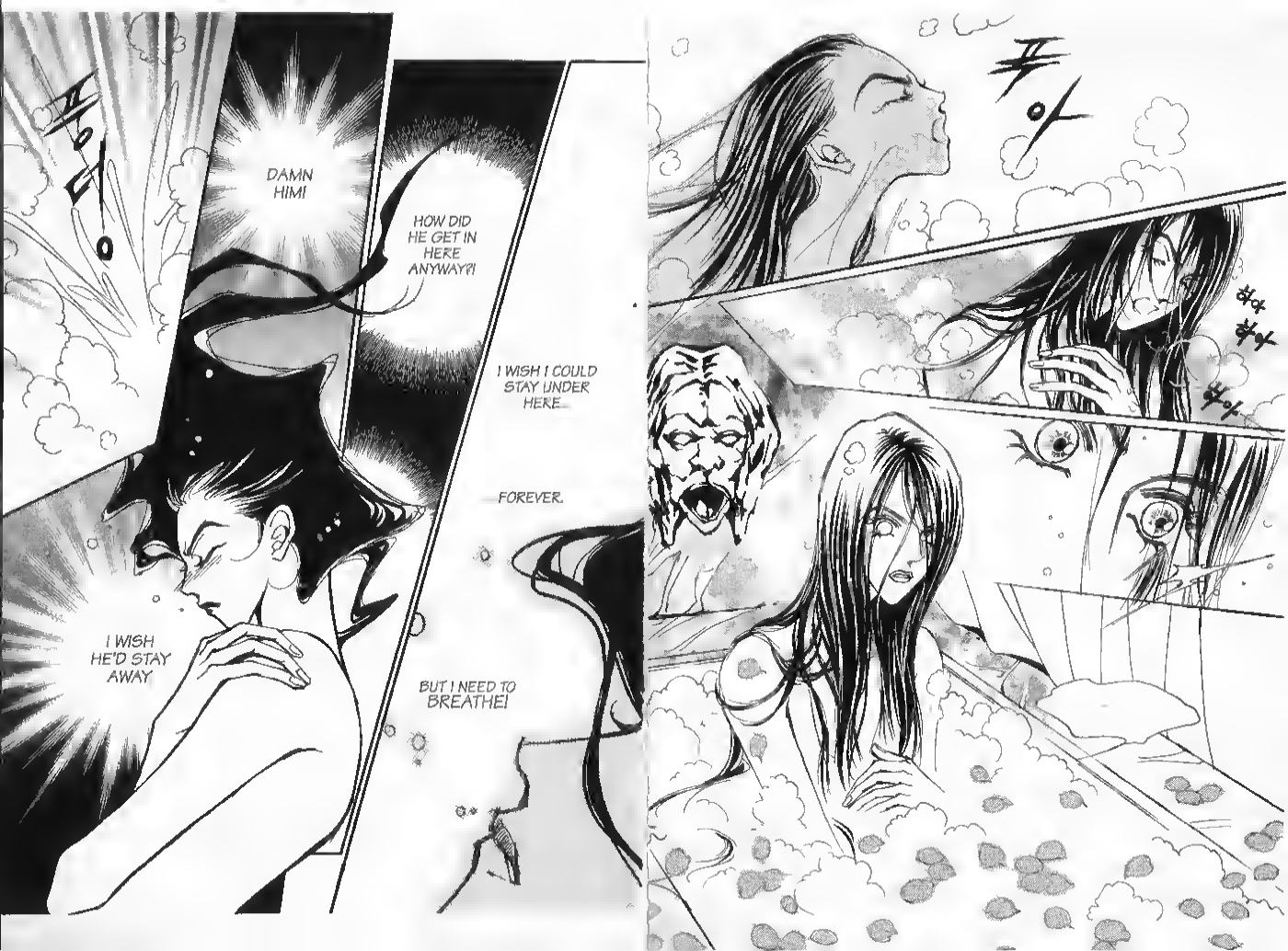
WHAT I TOLD YOU THIS AFTERNOON...
FORGET ABOUT IT
THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO BOTHER MICHAEL WITH YOUR QUESTIONS

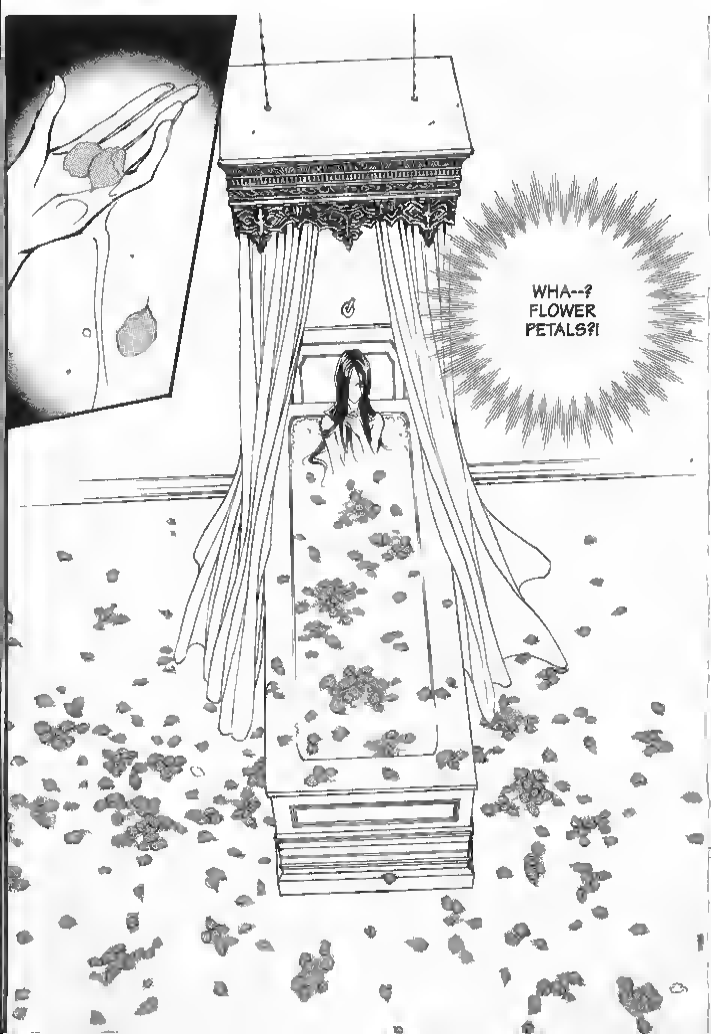
IF YOU'RE CURIOUS ABOUT SOMETHING...
ASK ME DIRECTLY, UNDERSTAND?

AND .
REMEMBER.
THIS

I AM VERY DIFFERENT FROM MICHAEL.

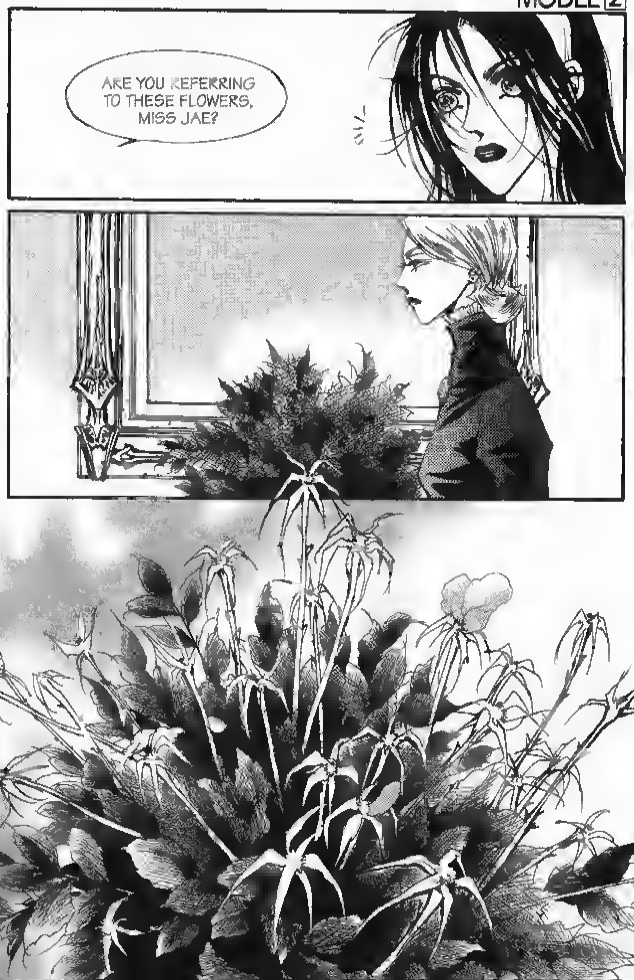
HA! JUST AS I THOUGHT... NO FIGURE WHATSOEVER
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A HARD TIME ATTRACTING MICHAEL'S ATTENTION WITH THAT BODY
GASP!


DAMN HIM!
HOW DID HE GET IN HERE ANYWAY?!
I WISH I COULD STAY UNDER HERE...
...FOREVER.
I WISH HE'D STAY AWAY
BUT I NEED TO BREATHE!

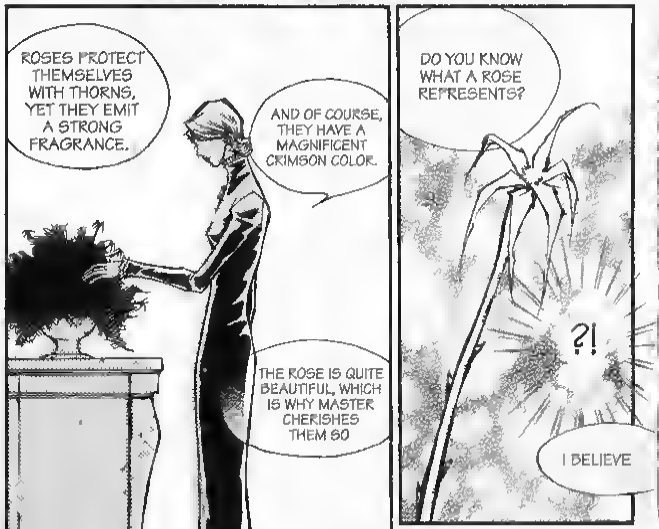

WHA--? FLOWER PETALS?!

EVA!
WHERE'S KEN?
WHERE IS THAT PERVERT?

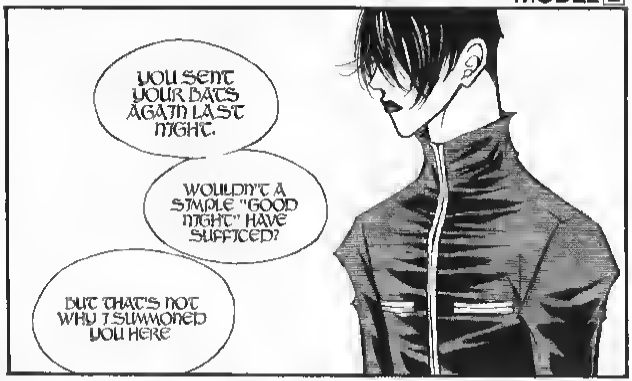
IS THERE SOMETHING WRONG, MISS JAE?
YES! AND HIS NAME'S KEN.
JUST A MOMENT AGO, HE--
YES, MISS JAE.
HE JUST BARGED INTO THE BATHROOM WHILE I...
...I WAS TAKING A BATH...
DOESN'T HE HAVE ANY SENSE OF PRIVACY?!
OH, AND THE FLOWERS...
HE LEFT...
...FLOWER PETALS EVERYWHERE...

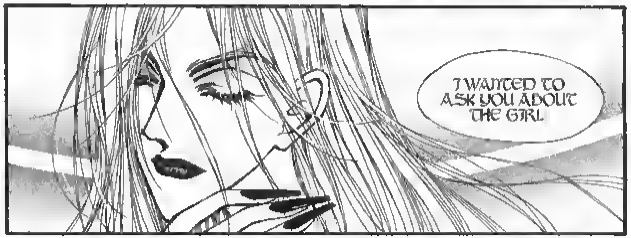

ARE YOU REFERRING TO THESE FLOWERS, MISS JAE?

YES. I THINK THAT'S THEM.
ONLY THE LEAVES AND STEMS ARE LEFT
WHAT ABOUT THE FLOWERS, MISS JAE?
WELL, UM...
THEY'RE ROSES


ROSES PROTECT THEMSELVES WITH THORNS, YET THEY EMIT A STRONG FRAGRANCE.
AND OF COURSE, THEY HAVE A MAGNIFICENT CRIMSON COLOR.
THE ROSE IS QUITE BEAUTIFUL, WHICH IS WHY MASTER CHERISHES THEM SO
DO YOU KNOW WHAT A ROSE REPRESENTS?
?!
I BELIEVE

...IT'S LOVE


YOU SENT YOUR BATS AGAIN LAST NIGHT.
WOULDN'T A SIMPLE "GOOD NIGHT" HAVE SUFFICED?
BUT THAT'S NOT WHY I SUMMONED YOU HERE


I WANTED TO ASK YOU ABOUT THE GIRL

ARE YOU REALLY THAT INTERESTED IN HER?

WHY DON'T YOU COME OVER HERE AND TELL ME ABOUT IT
AFTER ALL, IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE WE HAD A FATHER AND SON TALK.
IT'S SOMETHING WE SHOULD DO MORE OFTEN.
WOULDN'T YOU AGREE...

...MY SON?

BAM
스륵

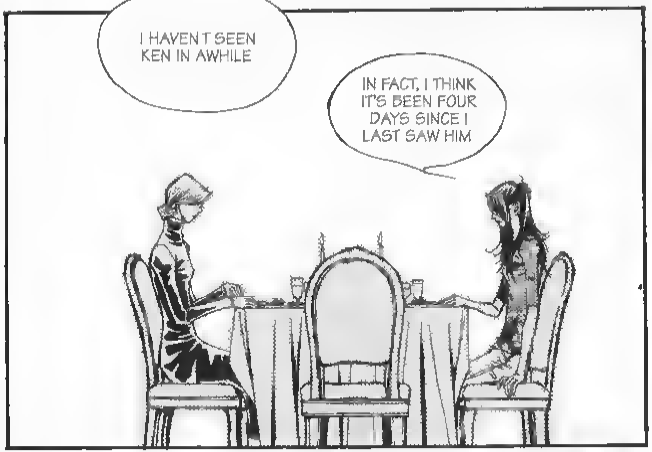
YOU LITTLE..

THIRSTY?

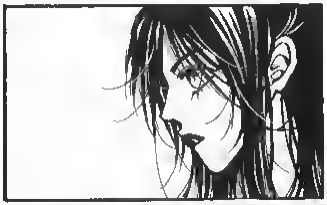
NO NEED TO DENY YOURSELF...
...MASTER
WHAT BETTER GIFT COULD A SON GIVE HIS FATHER THAN HIS LIFE'S BLOOD.
BUT THEN, YOU'VE NEVER DRUNK FROM MY VEINS...
I GUESS MY BLOOD DOESN'T APPEAL TO YOU

KEN, YOU--!
I'M SORRY, I GUESS I FORGOT MY PLACE.
IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DRINK MY BLOOD, PLEASE LET GO OF MY HAND-- MASTER.
YOU SEE, I WAS PRUNING THE ROSES AND I DIDN'T REALIZE THAT I CUT MY HAND.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME...

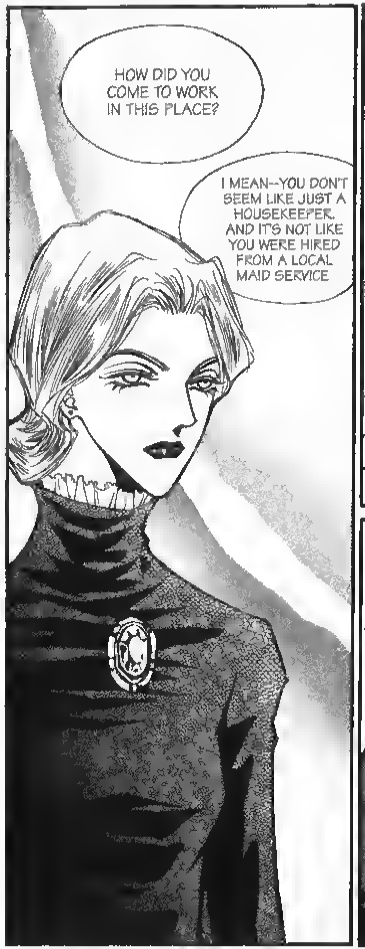
SLAM!


I HAVEN'T SEEN KEN IN AWHILE
IN FACT, I THINK IT'S BEEN FOUR DAYS SINCE I LAST SAW HIM

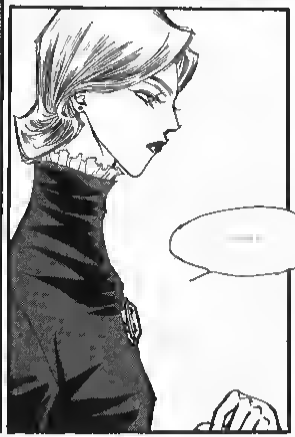
HE OCCASIONALLY DISAPPEARS FOR LONG PERIODS OF TIME. NOTHING FOR YOU TO WORRY ABOUT.
I'M SURE HE'S JUST TENDING TO HIS BATS I NOTICED THE INJURED ONE IS GONE



EVA, CAN I ASK YOU A QUESTION?


HOW DID YOU COME TO WORK IN THIS PLACE?
I MEAN--YOU DON'T SEEM LIKE JUST A HOUSEKEEPER. AND IT'S NOT LIKE YOU WERE HIRED FROM A LOCAL MAID SERVICE

HOW DID YOU BECOME CONNECTED TO HIS PLACE?
IF IT ISN'T TOO PRESUMPTUOUS OF ME, I'D LIKE TO KNOW...
DO YOU MIND?

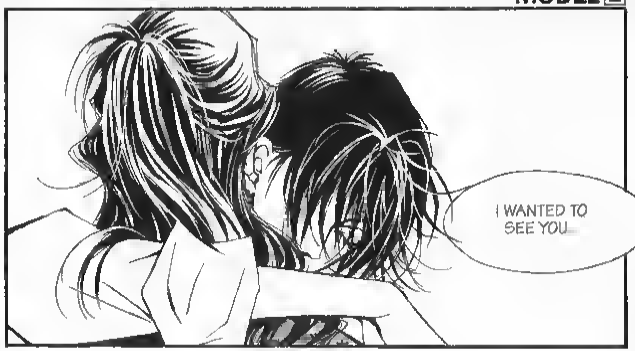


CLINK
I MIND
UH, OKAY
WE THAT DIDN'T GO WELL
WHAT COULD SHE BE HIDING?
NOW I'M MORE CURIOUS THAN EVER!
WHY IS EVERYTHING A BIG SECRET IN THIS PLACE?!
DOES EVERYTHING HAVE TO BE A BIG MYSTERY?
HELLO, JAE

KEN?!
HE FINALLY CAME OUT OF HIDING
!
HELLO, KEN!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN HIDING YOUR--

WH
WHAT..
...ARE
YOU...
DOING?!

I... I MISSED YOU

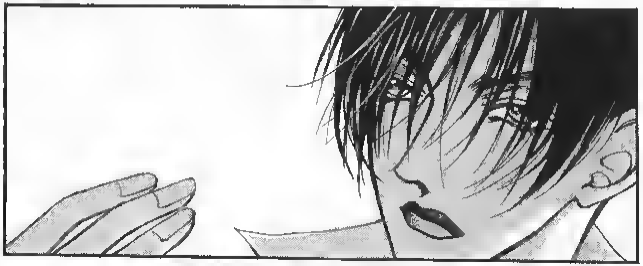

I WANTED TO SEE YOU...

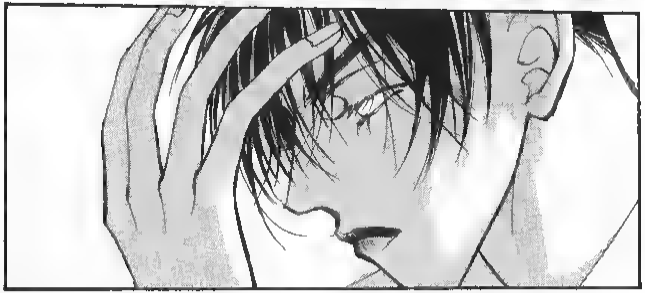
...JAE...

HUH?!

HE'S DRIVING ME CRAZY!
JAE, I HAVE TO TELL YOU ...

I REALLY
LIKE YOU





YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOOK SO HORRIFIED
GEEZ.
WHEN A MAN CONFESSES HIS EMOTIONS, YOU CAN AT LEAST TRY TO LOOK FLATTERED
HA! YOU KNOW WHAT YOU REMIND ME OF?
A STIFF TREE TRUNK IN THE MIDDLE OF A FOREST
YOU DON'T MOVE, YOU DON'T REACT YOU JUST SIT THERE
WELL, EVEN THOUGH THIS HAS BEEN FUN
...I FEEL AS IF I'M STEALING SOMEONE ELSE'S FOOD

I BET IF I WAS MICHAEL
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE THAT CONSTIPATED EXPRESSION ON YOUR FACE
DON'T WORRY
THERE'S NO NEED TO TAKE MY CONFESSION SERIOUSLY
I WAS ONLY JOKING

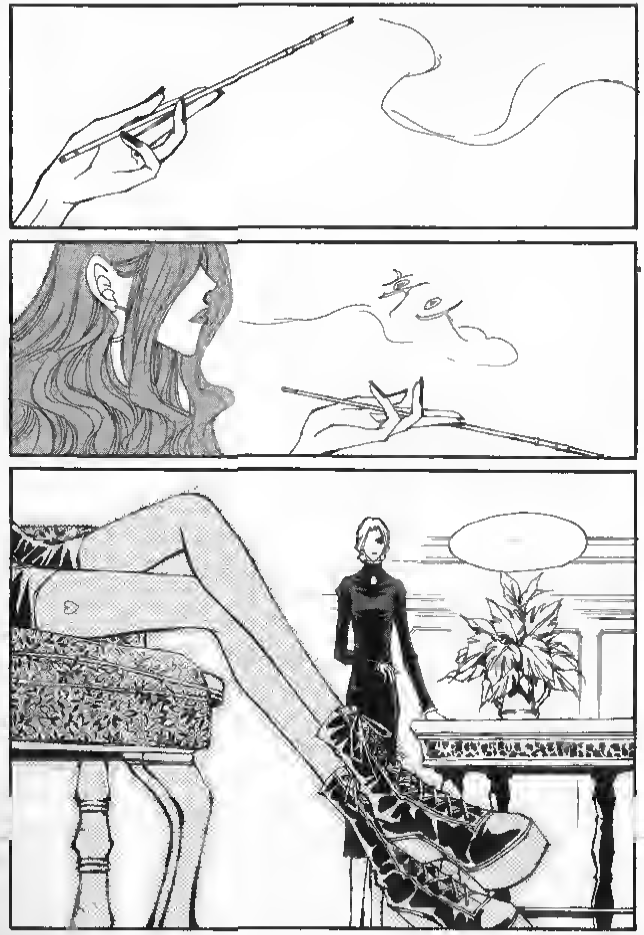
DON'T TELL ME YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVED ME? YOU'RE SO NAIVE

SHE'S NO FUN.

KEN...
KEN.
KEN!
KENNNNN!
KEN!!

FROM NOW ON, I WON'T EVEN ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR PRESENCE!

I WILL PAINSTAKINGLY IGNORE YOU!!
YOU'LL BE SORRY YOU CROSSED ME
I WILL HAVE REVENGE!

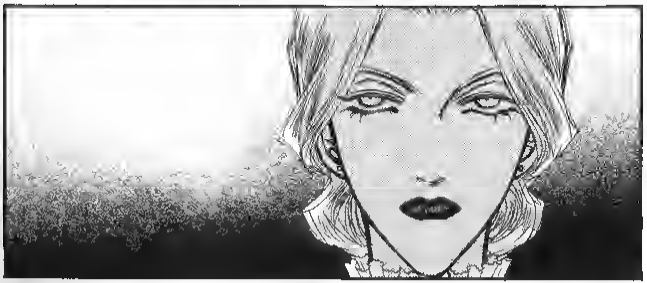


YOU'RE RATHER EARLY FOR YOUR INTERVIEW IT IS SUPPOSED TO BE *NEXT* WEEK.
AND THE MASTER ISN'T HERE AT THE MOMENT, MISS DUBON.
PLEASE...

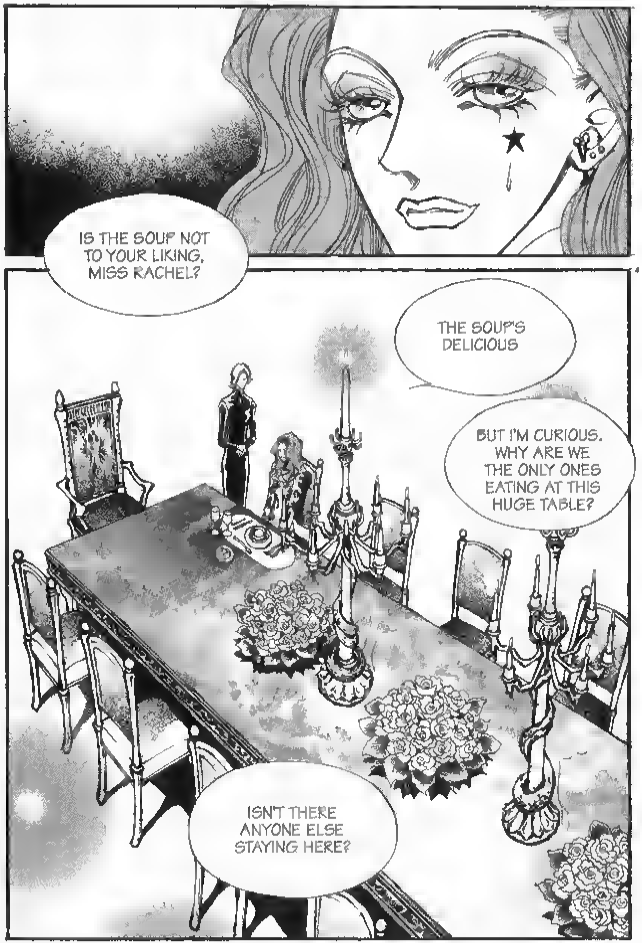
CALL ME RACHEL
I HATE MY LAST NAME
YOU UNDERSTAND, DON'T YOU? JUST CALL ME RACHEL.

A LIMOUSINE?
WHY IS THERE A LIMOUSINE HERE?
I WONDER WHO IT BELONGS TO?
FINE
IF YOU SAY MY INTERVIEW IS NEXT WEEK, THEN I GUESS I HAVE TO WAIT
OF COURSE, I'LL STAY HERE UNTIL THEN
NO WAY I'M DRIVING ALL THE WAY HOME AND BACK AGAIN

AND DON'T TELL ME YOU HAVEN'T ANY ROOMS!
THIS PLACE IS A MANSION ! EXPECT SOME HOSPITALITY.
IN FACT, I THINK I'M TIRED FROM MY JOURNEY I'D LIKE TO SETTLE IN...
MISS...

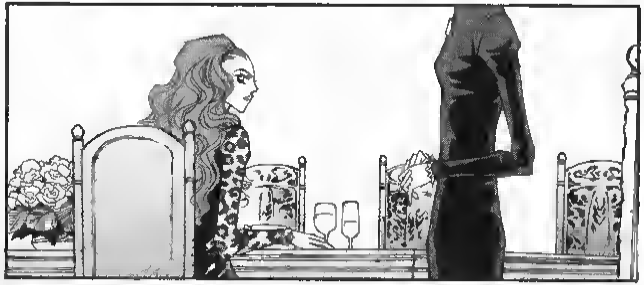


I'LL ESCORT YOU TO YOUR ROOM...
—MISS RACHEL


IS THE SOUP NOT TO YOUR LIKING, MISS RACHEL?
THE SOUP'S DELICIOUS
BUT I'M CURIOUS. WHY ARE WE THE ONLY ONES EATING AT THIS HUGE TABLE?
ISN'T THERE ANYONE ELSE STAYING HERE?

YES, BUT THERE ARE ONLY A FEW OTHERS HERE AT THE MOMENT
SINCE YOU'VE JUST ARRIVED, I PLACED YOU IN THE FORMAL DINING ROOM
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD APPRECIATE IT, SINCE THIS IS YOUR FIRST MEAL WITH US
TODAY'S MENU IS FISH
BUT IF YOU'D PREFER SOMETHING ELSE, PLEASE LET ME KNOW
THANK YOU, MISS ..
EVA.

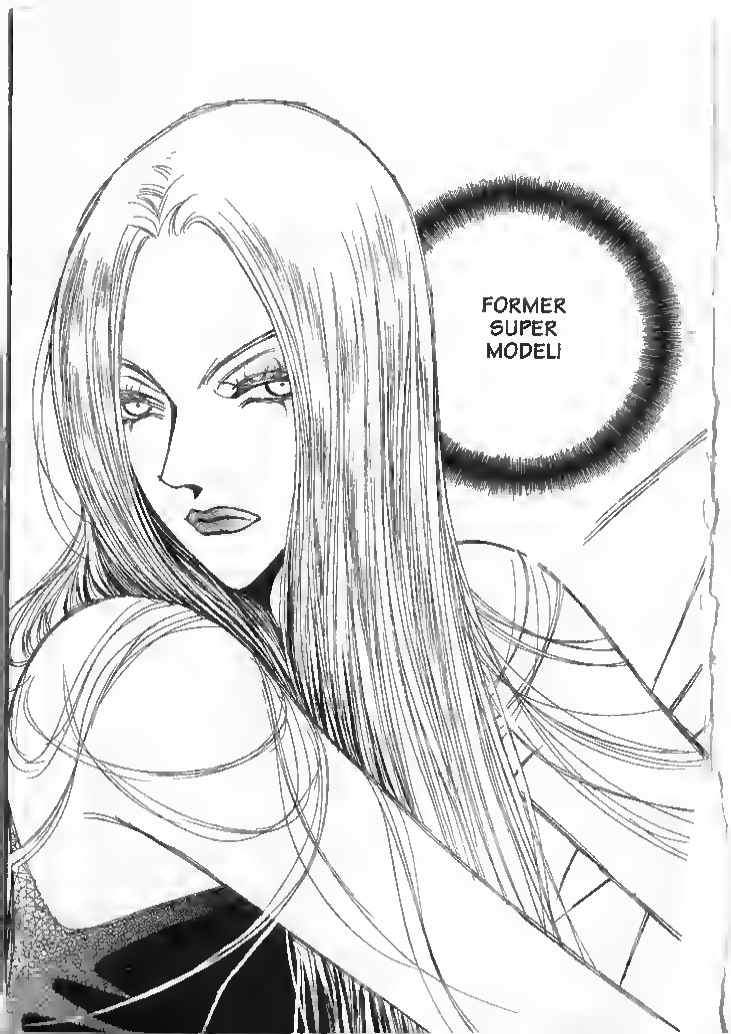
EVA, WHAT'S GOING ON?
THERE'S A HUGE LIMO OUTSIDE
IS SOMEONE ELSE VISITING?



EVA...?

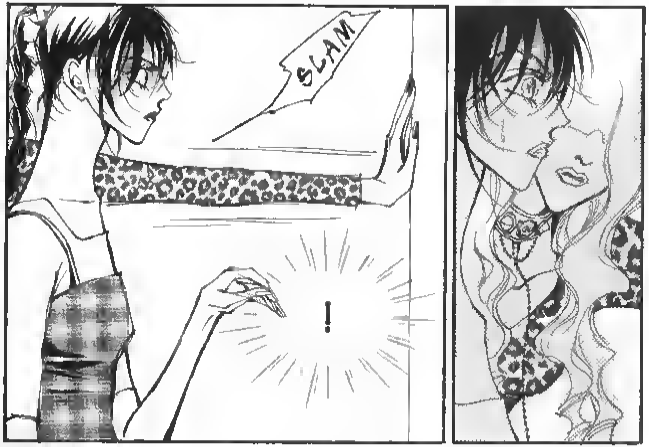
OH MY GOD! EVA!
I KNOW YOU!
WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHO WOULD BELIEVE THAT YOU'D BE WORKING AS A HOUSEKEEPER?

EVA ROSE!


FORMER SUPER MODEL!

HEY DON'T YOU THINK YOU SHOULD GO TO YOUR OWN ROOM?
I HAD A VERY LONG DAY OF TRAVELING AND I'M TIRED
HELLO? ARE YOU LISTENING? I WOULD LIKE YOU TO LEAVE.

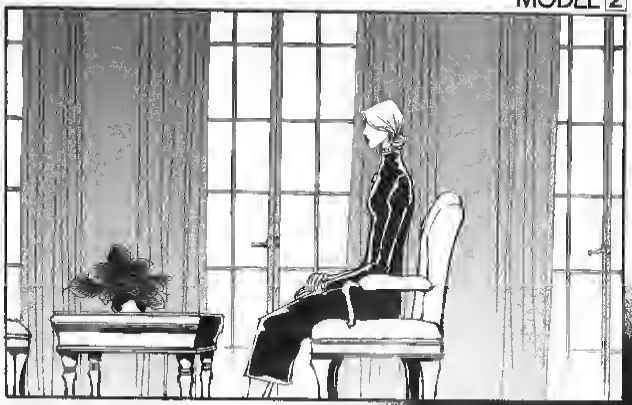
HOW CAN IT BE?
THIS... THIS PICTURE CAN'T BE EVA
CAN IT?
IT LOOKS LIKE HER, BUT THE REAL EVA IS SO MUCH MORE STERN LOOKING-- LIKE A DOUGHTY SCHOOL TEACHER.

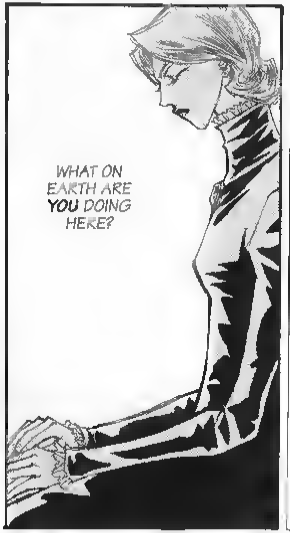

SLAM
!

HI, REMEMBER ME?

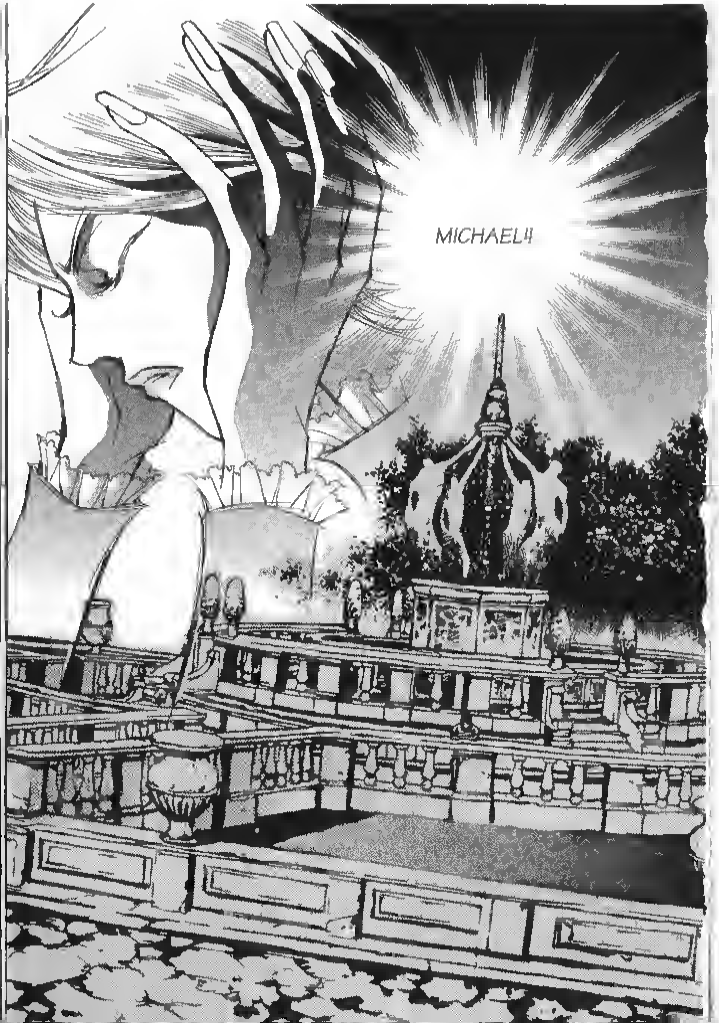
THIS IS MY ROOM.
NOW IF YOU'RE QUITE FINISHED, I'D LIKE TO GO TO SLEEP.

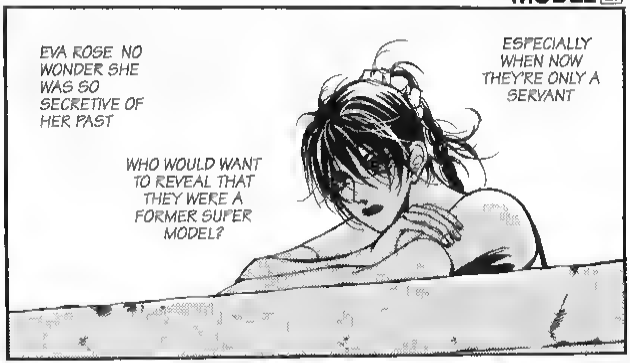
PHEW

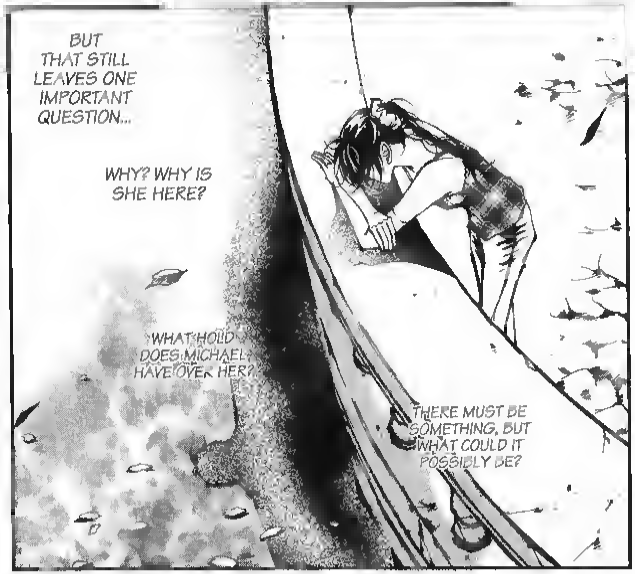



WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING HERE?

EVA ROSE...
WHO WOULD BELIEVE THAT YOU'D BE WORKING AS A HOUSEKEEPER?

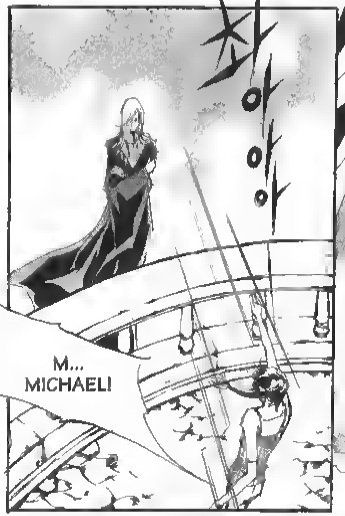

MICHAEL!!


EVA ROSE. NO WONDER SHE WAS SO SECRETIVE OF HER PAST
WHO WOULD WANT TO REVEAL THAT THEY WERE A FORMER SUPER MODEL?
ESPECIALLY WHEN NOW THEY'RE ONLY A SERVANT


BUT THAT STILL LEAVES ONE IMPORTANT QUESTION...
WHY? WHY IS SHE HERE?
WHAT HOLD DOES MICHAEL HAVE OVER HER?
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING, BUT WHAT COULD IT POSSIBLY BE?

I'M SO CONFUSED. I WISH SOMEONE WOULD MAGICALLY APPEAR AND ANSWER ALL MY QUESTIONS

HUH?


M... MICHAEL!

YOU'RE WALKING ON WATER!
OF COURSE, HE CAN FLOAT IN THE AIR. I FORGOT
HA HA!

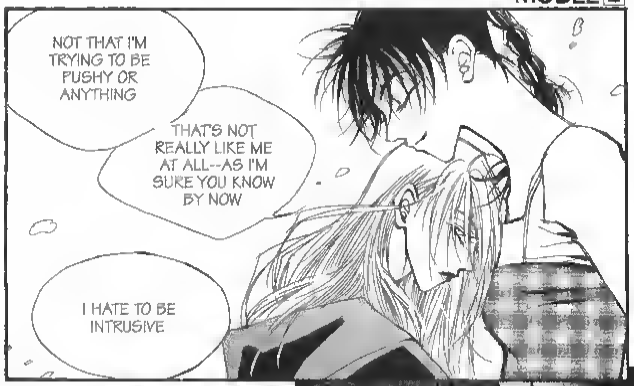
RACHEL?
I REMEMBER NOW. I BELIEVE SHE'S MY NEWEST CLIENT...
SHE'S ALREADY HERE?
THAT'S ODD. SHE ISN'T DUE UNTIL NEXT WEEK.

HOW DO YOU GET YOUR CLIENTS? IS THERE SOME KIND OF CRITERION?
SOME NEVER KNOW.
AND DO THEY KNOW YOU'RE A VAMPIRE OR DO THEY FIND OUT AFTER?
I DON'T EXACTLY ADVERTISE THE FACT.

THOSE THREE PROSTITUTES WERE AN EXCEPTION.
OTHERWISE, I'M KNOWN AS AN ARTIST CAPABLE OF CAPTURING PEOPLE'S SOULS ON CANVAS
SO WHAT ABOUT RACHEL? IS SHE PLANNING HER DEATH?
WHY WOULD SOMEONE SO RICH AND BEAUTIFUL WANT TO DIE?
THEODRIC KNEW WHAT I REALLY WAS.
--DO YOU THINK THEY'D HAVE THE COURAGE TO STAND BEFORE ME-- A VAMPIRE?

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED..
—THAT DEATH ISN'T SOMETHING TO BE FEARED?
THAT MAYBE IT'S SOMETHING THAT SHOULD BE EMBRACED?
AFTER ALL, ONCE YOU EMBRACE DEATH—
. YOU ESCAPE FEAR.
YOU LOOK LIKE THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE YOU WANT TO ASK
WHAT IS IT?

WELL, THERE IS SOMETHING BUT I'M NOT SURE WHERE TO BEGIN
IF I DO ASK, WILL YOU PROMISE TO ANSWER ME...
NO MATTER WHAT THE QUESTION IS?
IF YOU MAKE ME THAT PROMISE THEN I'LL ASK


NOT THAT I'M TRYING TO BE PUSHY OR ANYTHING
THAT'S NOT REALLY LIKE ME AT ALL--AS I'M SURE YOU KNOW BY NOW
I HATE TO BE INTRUSIVE

AFTER ALL, THIS IS YOUR PLACE AND I'M JUST A GUEST ! REALLY HAVE NO RIGHT TO ASK YOU ANYTHING

MUCH LESS TO ASK YOU TO PROMISE AN ANSWER TO A QUESTION I HAVEN'T EVEN ASKED

I'M SURE YOU'RE EAGER FOR ME TO FINISH MY PAINTING AND
STOP BOTHERING YOU WITH ALL THESE INANE QUESTIONS
BUT THERE'S SO MUCH I DON'T KNOW... AND I'M SURE YOU COULD ANSWER ALL OF MY QUESTIONS IF YOU WANTED TO—
THOUGH IT MUST BE STRANGE TO HAVE SOME FOREIGNER SUCH AS YOU SO
STOP RAMBLING AND GET TO THE POINT!

I'LL ANSWER YOUR QUESTION
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW?
GHK

I SEE ANOTHER GUEST HAS ARRIVED

I NOTICED IT'S A WOMAN
I HOPE HE'S NOT THINKING OF TAKING BLOOD AS PAYMENT AGAIN
HA! JUDGING BY THE CAR SHE CAME IN, I'M SURE SHE'LL HAVE PLENTY OF MONEY
MICHAEL WILL BE SO DISAPPOINTED
KEN, STOP ACTING LIKE A CHILD

I'LL KEEP THIS SHORT
YOU CAN'T HAVE MISS JAE
I HOPE THAT'S SIMPLE ENOUGH FOR YOU TO UNDERSTAND
SHE'S TOO STRONG TO FALL FOR YOUR SILLY GAMES
THERE ARE TIMES WHEN CERTAIN FISH ARE BEYOND ONE'S REACH.

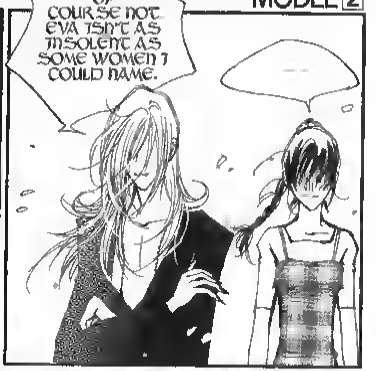
SHE WILL LEAVE HERE
AFTER SHE HAS GAINED WHAT SHE SEEKS.

THIS NEW GIRL, RACHEL, SHE RECOGNIZED EVA
SHE SAID SHE WAS A MODEL
IT'S SO HARD TO BELIEVE...

DOESN'T EVERYONE HAVE A PAST EVEN IF THEY DON'T...
...HAVE A FUTURE.

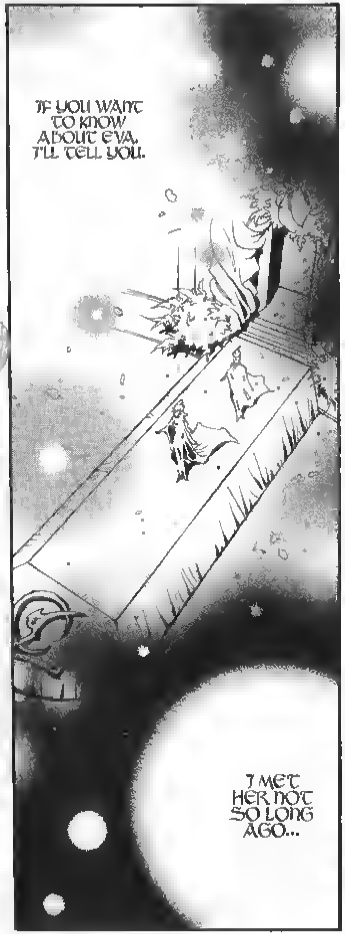
HOW DID YOU AND EVA MEET?

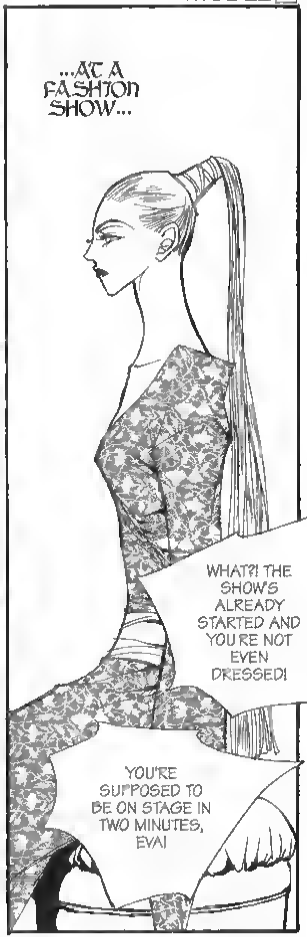
I'M SURE IT WASN'T AS OUTRAGEOUS AS OUR MEETING!

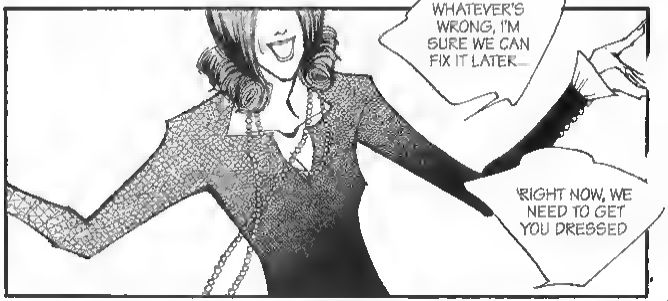

OF COURSE NOT. EVA ISN'T AS INSOLENT AS SOME WOMEN I COULD NAME.

SCRIPTING A VAMPIRE TO DRAW SKETCHES...!
HA HA HA!
JUST ANSWER THE QUESTION!
HA HA HA!
YOU PROMISED

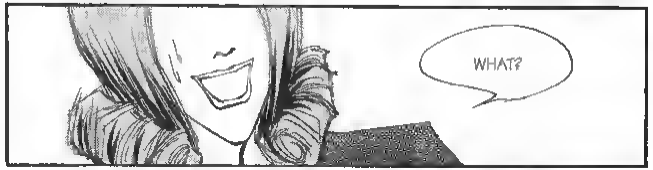
. OF ALL THE QUESTIONS FLOATING THROUGH MY HEAD, I'M NOT SURE WHY I ASKED ABOUT EVA.
SHE JUST HAPPENED TO BE FOREMOST IN MY MIND
SHE WAS SIMPLY THE LATEST SHOCK IN A SERIES OF SHOCKING REVELATIONS
AND I NEEDED TO KNOW MORE


IF YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT EVA, I'LL TELL YOU.
I MET HER NOT SO LONG AGO...


...AT A FASHION SHOW...
WHAT?! THE SHOW'S ALREADY STARTED AND YOU'RE NOT EVEN DRESSED!
YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE ON STAGE IN TWO MINUTES, EVA!


WHATEVER'S WRONG, I'M SURE WE CAN FIX IT LATER...
RIGHT NOW, WE NEED TO GET YOU DRESSED

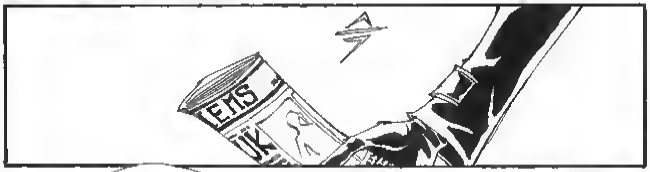
I WON'T WEAR IT

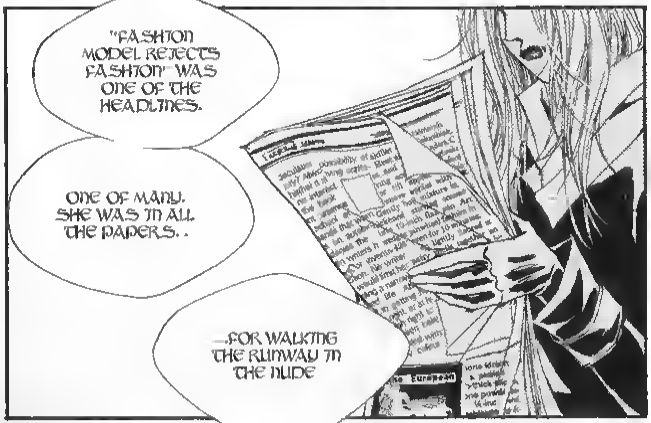

WHAT?

I WON'T WEAR THOSE CLOTHES!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? YOU'RE GOING OUT THERE NUDE?!

IT WOULD BE BETTER THAN WEARING THOSE OVERPRICED RAGS.

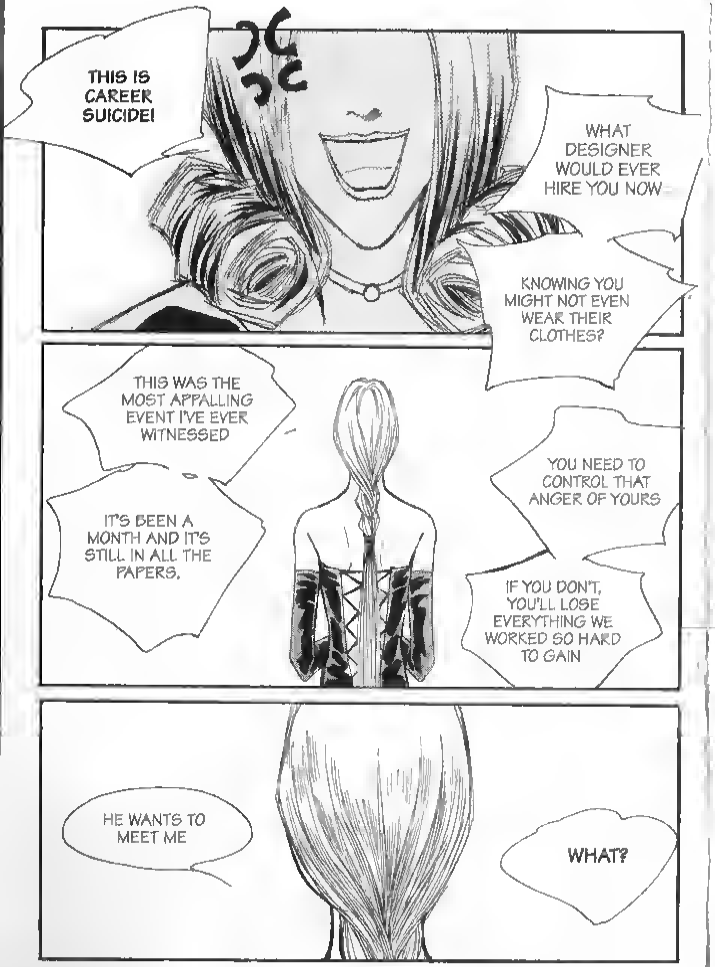

EMS


"FASHION MODEL REJECTS FASHION" WAS ONE OF THE HEADLINES.
ONE OF MANY. SHE WAS IN ALL THE PAPERS..
...FOR WALKING THE RUNWAY IN THE NUDE

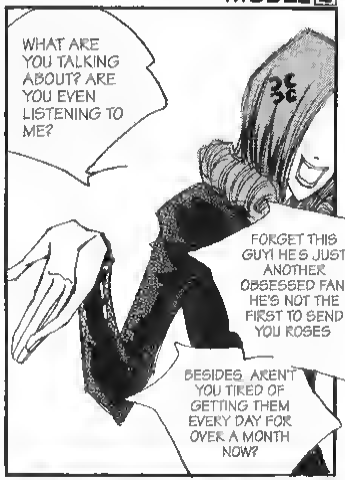
SHE FELT THE DESIGNER WAS EXPLOITING HER BODY AND SHE DECIDED THAT IF SHE WAS GOING TO BE EXPLOITED SHE MAY AS WELL EXPLOIT HERSELF

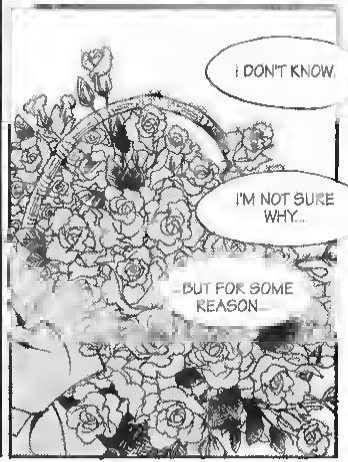
I FOUND IT QUITE ..

...AMUSING.


THIS IS CAREER SUICIDE!
WHAT DESIGNER WOULD EVER HIRE YOU NOW...
KNOWING YOU MIGHT NOT EVEN WEAR THEIR CLOTHES?
THIS WAS THE MOST APPALLING EVENT I'VE EVER WITNESSED
IT'S BEEN A MONTH AND IT'S STILL IN ALL THE PAPERS.
YOU NEED TO CONTROL THAT ANGER OF YOURS
IF YOU DON'T, YOU'LL LOSE EVERYTHING WE WORKED SO HARD TO GAIN
HE WANTS TO MEET ME
WHAT?

HE'S COMING TO GET ME... TONIGHT


WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING TO ME?
FORGET THIS GUY! HE'S JUST ANOTHER OBSESSED FAN HE'S NOT THE FIRST TO SEND YOU ROSES
BESIDES, AREN'T YOU TIRED OF GETTING THEM EVERY DAY FOR OVER A MONTH NOW?


I DON'T KNOW.
I'M NOT SURE WHY...
...BUT FOR SOME REASON...

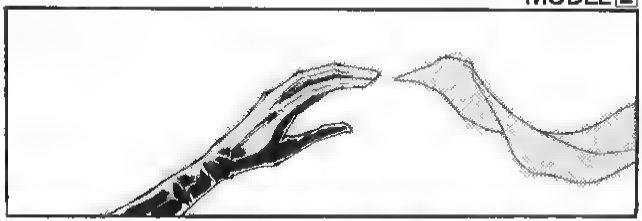
...I'M AFRAID
C'MON, EVA, WE'RE LATE!
WE HAVE TO ATTEND MURIEL'S PARTY IF YOU STILL WANT TO HAVE ANY KIND OF CAREER

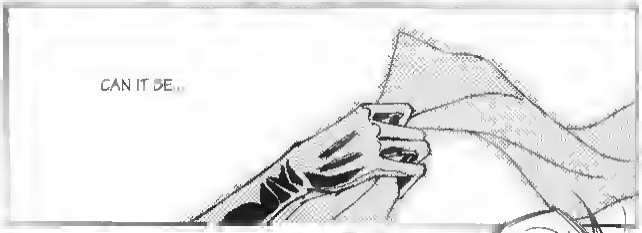
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANY MORE ABOUT THE ROSES.
STOP THINKING ABOUT IT. THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU
NOW LET'S GO

ALL RIGHT, I'LL STOP THINKING ABOUT IT.
GOOD.

YOU'RE RIGHT, IT'S JUST SOME OBSESSED FAN...
...NOTHING MORE... I HOPE

!
WAIT, THAT SMELL?
ROSES!

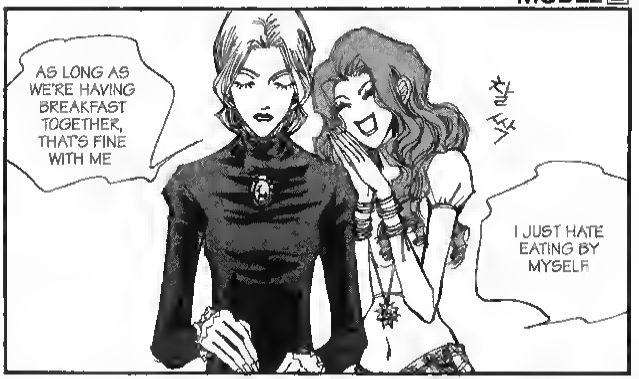


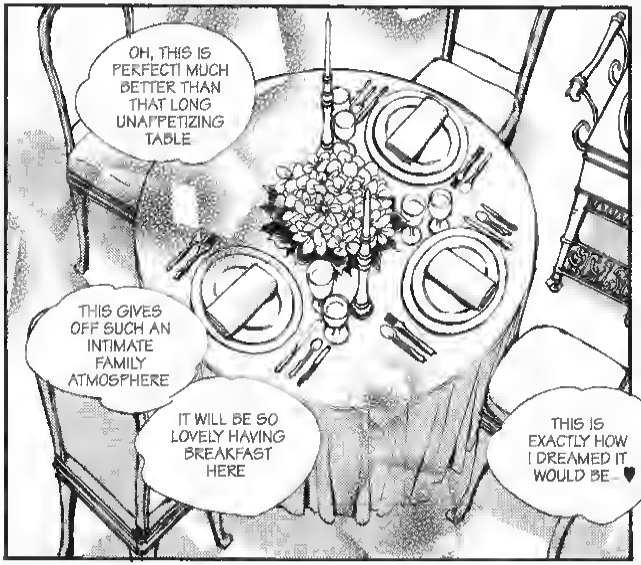

CAN IT BE...

...HIM?!

YOU.

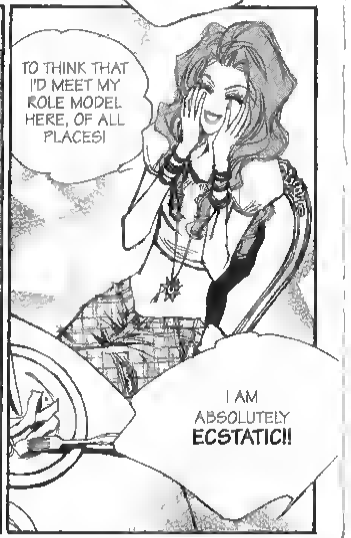
THAT'S HOW MICHAEL AND EVA MET
FOR THE SECOND TIME. BUT IT WASN'T UNTIL LATER THAT I LEARNED
ABOUT THEIR FIRST MEETING
GOOD MORNING, EVA!
TODAY'S BREAKFAST WILL SIMPLY BE BACON AND TOAST.

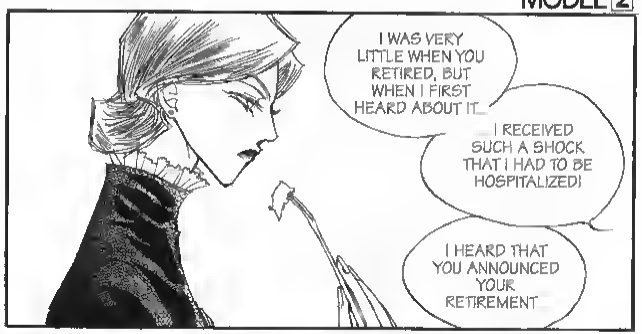

AS LONG AS WE'RE HAVING BREAKFAST TOGETHER, THAT'S FINE WITH ME
찰싹
I JUST HATE EATING BY MYSELF


OH, THIS IS PERFECT! MUCH BETTER THAN THAT LONG UNAPPETIZING TABLE
THIS GIVES OFF SUCH AN INTIMATE FAMILY ATMOSPHERE
IT WILL BE SO LOVELY HAVING BREAKFAST HERE
THIS IS EXACTLY HOW I DREAMED IT WOULD BE~♥

FROM NOW ON LET'S ALL EAT TOGETHER
THERE'S NO NEED TO TREAT ME LIKE A FORMAL GUEST
FRIENDS...!
LET'S ALL BE FRIENDS...

EVA, I'M SURE YOU'VE NOTICED I'M ONE OF YOUR GREATEST FANS!
WHEREVER I GO, I ALWAYS TAKE YOUR POSTER WITH ME
THAT HUMUNGOUS POSTER!


TO THINK THAT I'D MEET MY ROLE MODEL HERE, OF ALL PLACES!
I AM ABSOLUTELY **ECSTATIC!!**


I WAS VERY LITTLE WHEN YOU RETIRED, BUT WHEN I FIRST HEARD ABOUT IT...
...I RECEIVED SUCH A SHOCK THAT I HAD TO BE HOSPITALIZED!
I HEARD THAT YOU ANNOUNCED YOUR RETIREMENT...

...AND DISAPPEARED

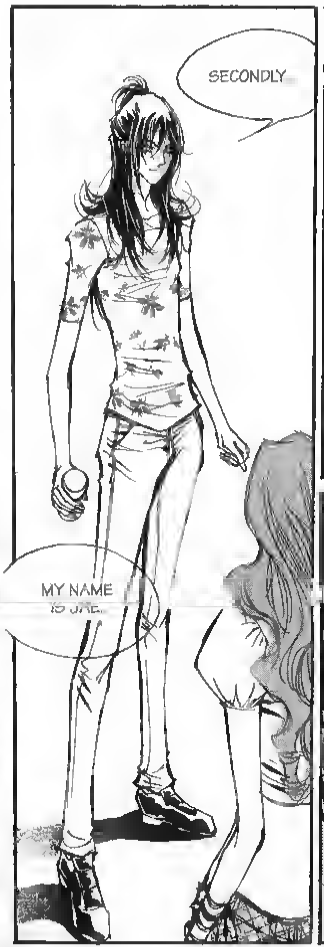
THAT'S JUST WHAT I HEARD

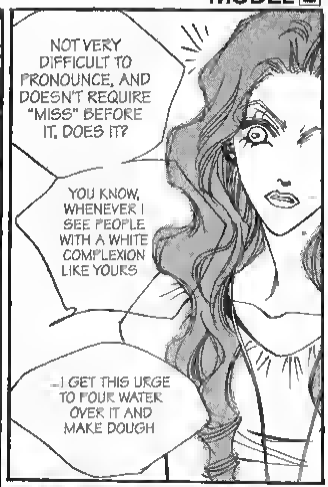
OH, NO!
I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID THAT!
CLINK
YOU'LL HAVE TO EXCUSE ME, I'M FINISHED EATING

HA HA. IT WAS A DELICIOUS BREAKFAST EVA IS SUCH A GREAT COOK..
EVEN IF IT WAS ONLY TOAST. HA, HA!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT I ABHOR MOST ABOUT YOU?

SLAM
...ABOUT PEOPLE LIKE YOU.
YOU ORIENTALS!
OR SHOULD I SAY, "MISS ORIENTAL?"
I HATE EATING AT THE SAME TABLE WITH YOU. IT MAKES ME MORE NAUSEOUS...
...THAN EATING A BOWL OF SQUIRMING BUGS
BUT I ENDURED YOU SO I COULD EAT WITH EVA
AFTER ALL, THE "LEASURE" OF HER COMPANY...
...ALMOST MAKES UP FOR THE DISPLEASURE OF YOURS!
HA!

I'M SORRY--DID I SAY SOMETHING INSULTING?
FIRST OF ALL
I'M ASIAN, NOT ORIENTAL.
BUT THAT'S OKAY. IT'S A COMMON MISTAKE THAT MANY IGNORANT PEOPLE MAKE.


SECONDLY...
MY NAME IS JAE.


NOT VERY DIFFICULT TO PRONOUNCE, AND DOESN'T REQUIRE "MISS" BEFORE IT, DOES IT?
YOU KNOW, WHENEVER I SEE PEOPLE WITH A WHITE COMPLEXION LIKE YOURS
...I GET THIS URGE TO POUR WATER OVER IT AND MAKE DOUGH

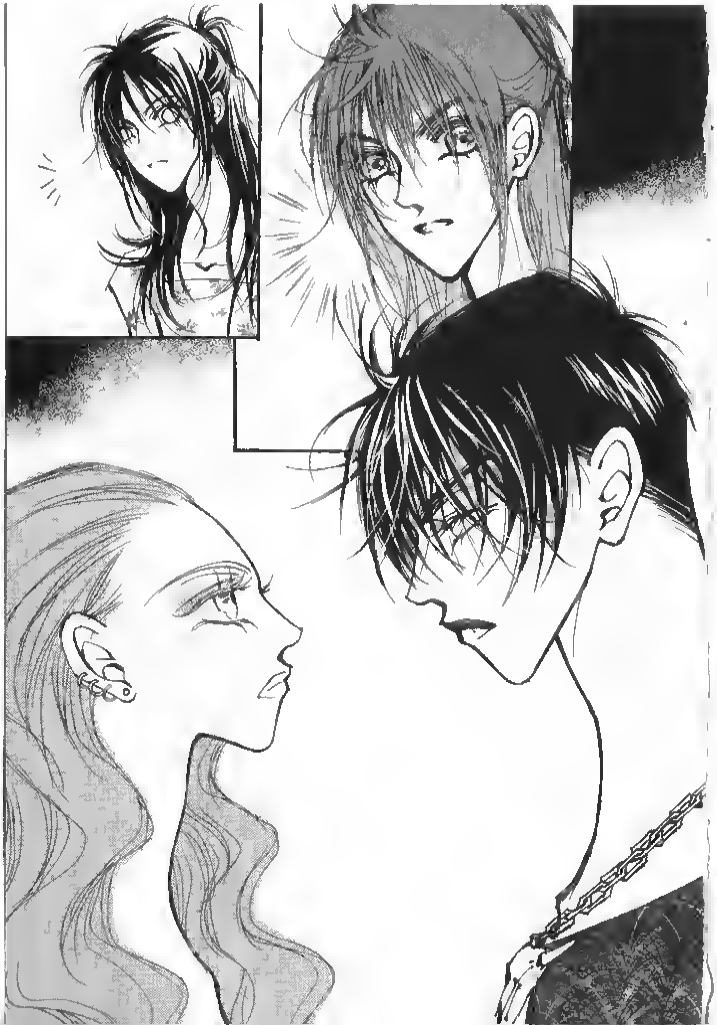
I GUESS YOU COULD SAY IT'S BECAUSE I MISS HOME

YOU SEE, I HAVE THIS SUDDEN DESIRE TO MAKE NOODLES
AHH, I SEE YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT KIND OF NOODLES I'M REFERRING TO!
THEY'RE KOREAN NOODLES. YOU TAKE PURE WHITE FLOUR, ADD WATER AND MAKE DOUGH
THEN YOU POUND AND ROLL IT FLAT WITH A ROLLING PIN! TAKE A KNIFE AND SLICE, SLICE SLICE.
ONCE THE WATER BOILS, YOU COOK IT THOROUGHLY IT'S DELICIOUS
AND IF YOU KEEP FLAPPING YOUR MOUTH, I'LL DO THE SAME THING TO YOUR FACE
HA HA HA!
HA HA! YOU'LL HAVE TO GIVE THE RECIPE TO EVA. I'D LOVE TO TRY IT
MISS

..JAE
FINISHED
I DIDN'T REALIZE WATCHING ME DRINK JUICE WAS THAT ENTERTAINING
BUT IT SEEMS TO HAVE CAPTIVATED TWO LOVELY YOUNG WOMEN

I GUESS IT'S A TESTAMENT TO MY ALLURING CHARM
SO, WHICH OF YOU WILL BE THE FIRST TO BREAK THE SILENCE?

HUMPHI
SMIRK



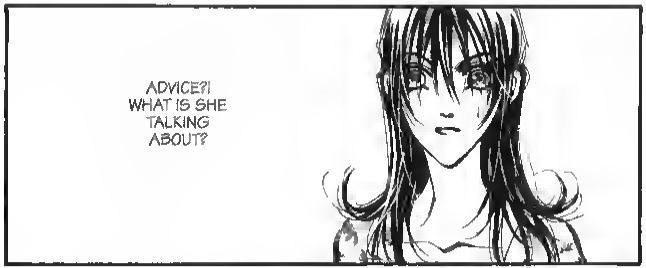
I...
UH .
WHAT?

.....

CLICK
SHE CAME TO AND THEN WENT BACK TO SLEEP, SO THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY.
I THINK SHE WAS JUST EXHAUSTED FROM HER TRIP
THERE'S NO NEED TO CALL A DOCTOR, AND...

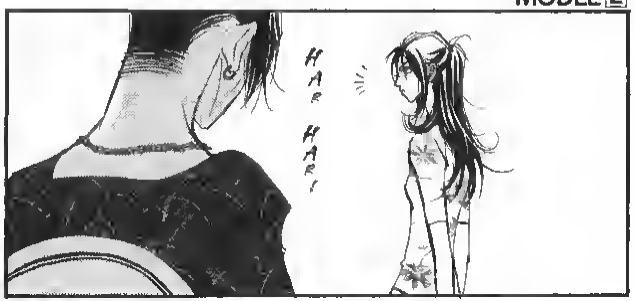
...I'M GLAD...
...TO SEE YOU TWO BEHAVING.
?

YOU FINALLY TOOK MY ADVICE, KEN.
I'M RELIEVED AND DELIGHTED
GOOD DAY..
CLICK
...


ADVICE?!
WHAT IS SHE
TALKING
ABOUT?

AHHH!

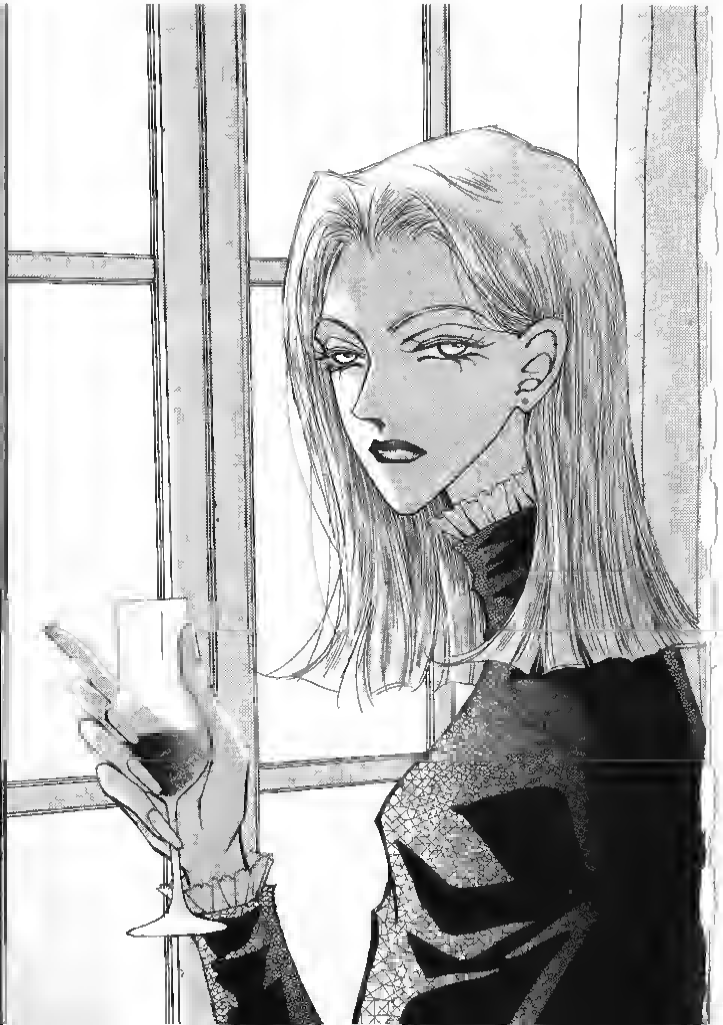
PLEASE
IGNORE IT
CAN IT BE?
BACK THEN,
SHE WAS

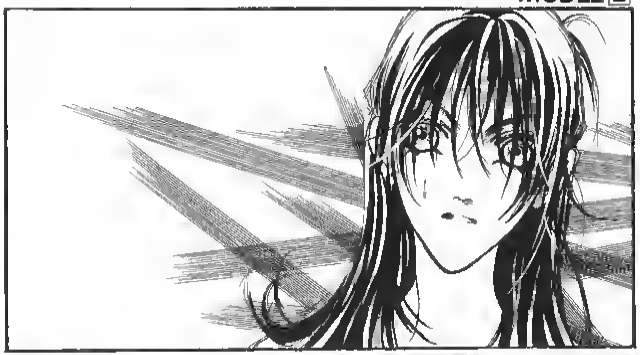

HA! HA!

YOU CAN'T HAVE
MISS JAE.
THERE ARE TIMES
WHEN CERTAIN
FISH ARE BEYOND
ONE'S REACH...
A FISH THAT
CAN'T BE
CAUGHT

SIGH
WHAAAT! HIS GLARE IS GIVING ME THE CREEPS
KNOW THIS
I'M...
AN EXCEPTIONAL FISHERMAN!

WHAT IS HE TALKING ABOUT? FISHERMAN?
HUMPH! MAKE ME LAUGH!
KNOCK
EVA, IT'S JAE IF IT'S NOT A BOTHER, I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU FOR A MOMENT.
COME IN
THANK YOU





WELCOME TO MY ROOM
YOU'VE NEVER BEEN HERE BEFORE, HAVE YOU?
WELL, NO...

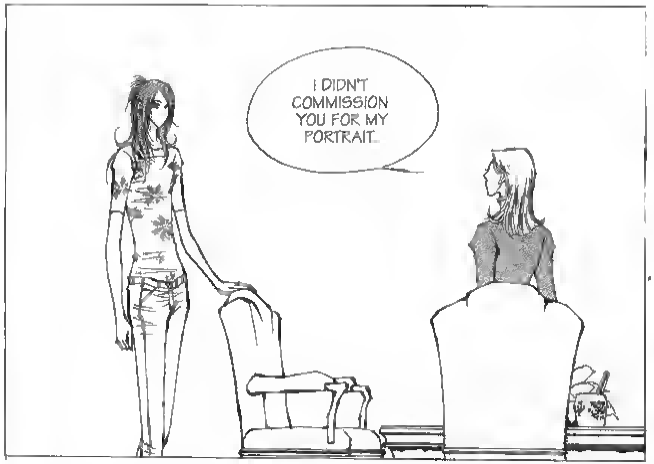
I SUPPOSE...
...MICHAEL TOLD YOU ABOUT ME
BUT HOW MUCH DID HE REALLY TELL YOU?
!
DID HE SAY...
...HOW I BECAME HIS HOUSEKEEPER?
DID HE TELL YOU THAT?
NO

IF YOU CAME HERE BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED THIS MORNING...
...THERE IS NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE
HOWEVER, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK A FAVOR OF YOU...
...IF YOU DON'T MIND

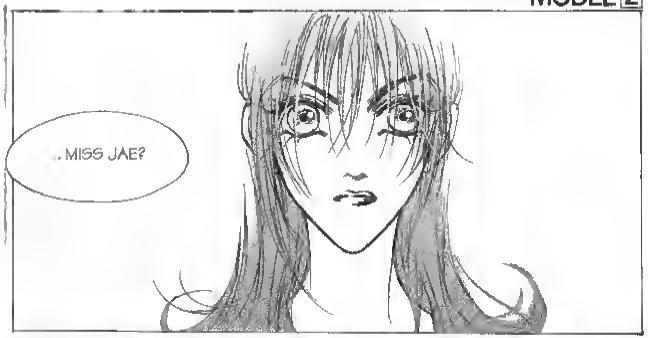
I KNOW THIS ISN'T MY PLACE TO ASK, BUT IT'S ABOUT
...YOUR FAINTING
I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD FINISH YOUR FAINTING, QUICKLY
MISS JAE

AGAIN I FIND MYSELF COMING HERE.
I WOULD LIKE TO ASK A FAVOR
FINISH YOUR PAINTING, QUICKLY

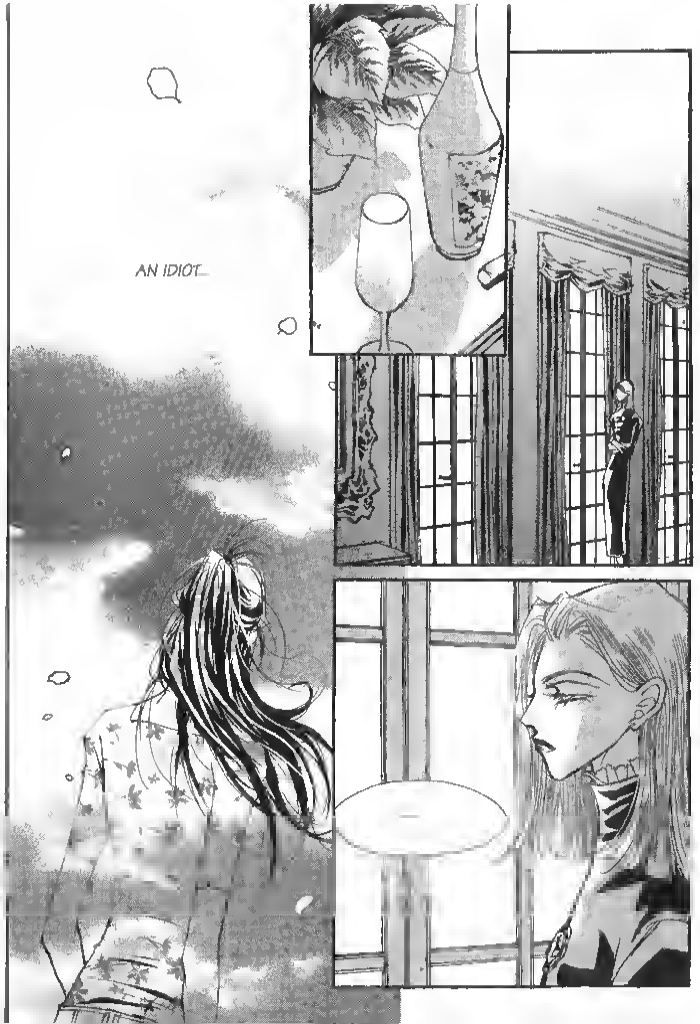
I'M GOING TO BE VERY HONEST WITH YOU, MISS JAE
EVEN THOUGH IT MAY BE UNCOMFORTABLE TO HEAR
YOUR STAY HERE IS BECOMING VERY DISRUPTIVE. YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE HERE TO PAINT, BUT YOU HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED
YOU'VE BEEN HERE FOR ALMOST A MONTH. I THINK YOU'VE GATHERED ENOUGH INFORMATION TO BEGIN
OR HAS YOUR CURIOSITY EXTENDED BEYOND THE MASTER?

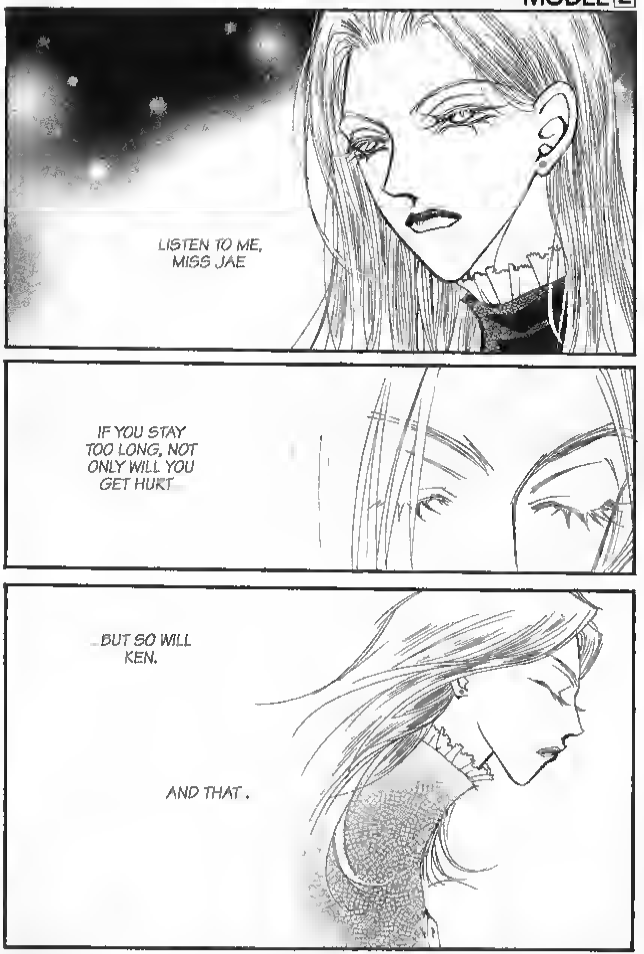

I DIDN'T COMMISSION YOU FOR MY PORTRAIT...

I DON'T BELIEVE THE PEOPLE SURROUNDING THE MASTER...
...SHOULD BE THE FOCUS OF YOUR CURIOSITY
DON'T YOU AGREE...


...MISS JAE?

HA... I SHE'S RIGHT!
YET HER WORDS STING
WHY DO I FEEL SO SAD?
I'M SUCH AN IDIOT

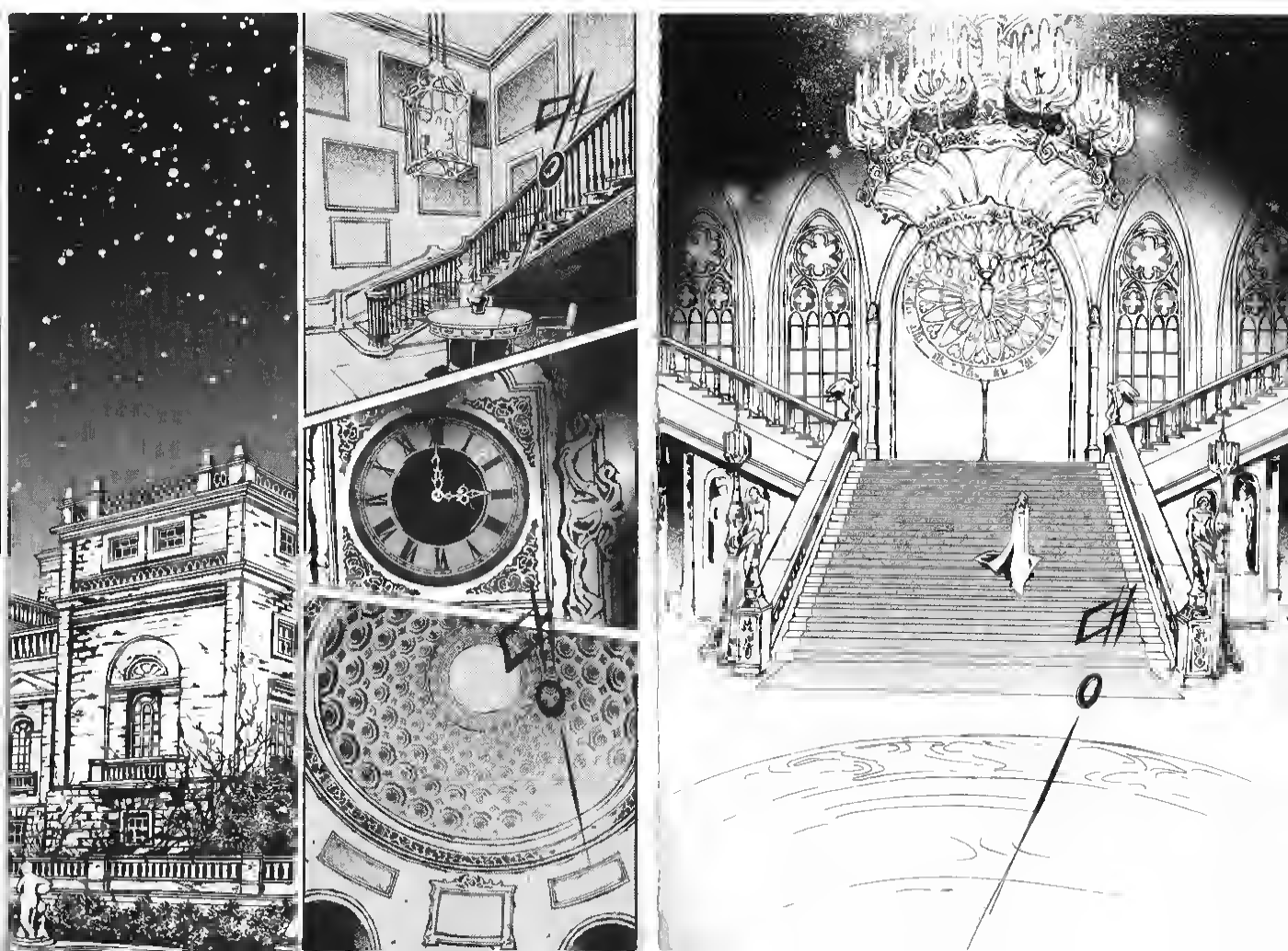

AN IDIOT...


LISTEN TO ME, MISS JAE
IF YOU STAY TOO LONG, NOT ONLY WILL YOU GET HURT...
...BUT SO WILL KEN.
AND THAT.

...IS SOMETHING
I CANNOT ALLOW

KACC

HMM



AH, THERE YOU ARE—
THE GUEST WHO BARGED INTO MY HOME BECAUSE SHE COULDN'T WAIT A WEEK
AND NOW YOU'RE PRETENDING TO BE A SLEEP WALKER...
—DRIFTING FROM ROOM TO ROOM #LIKE A GHOST.
HOW COULD ANYONE MISTAKE YOU FOR A MORTAL...
...WHEN YOU RESEMBLE A PHANTOM?

END OF CHAPTER TWO
MARY

END OF MODEL
VOLUME 2

MESSAGES FROM THE MAUSOLEUM

AS JAE PONDERS HER PRECARIOUS FUTURE AT THE MANSION, KEN APPEARS AND TAKES HER ON A TOUR OF THE GROUNDS. WHERE AN OMINOUS SECRET IS REVEALED. MEANWHILE, THE MASTER OF THE HOUSE HAS A FEW CHOICE WORDS FOR EVA CONCERNING HER WARNING TO JAE. WHAT IS THE TRUE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MICHAEL AND KEN? WHAT DOES THE VAMPIRE WANT FROM JAE? AND WHO IS THE SPECTRAL CREATURE INHABITING THE BODY OF RACHEL DUBON?

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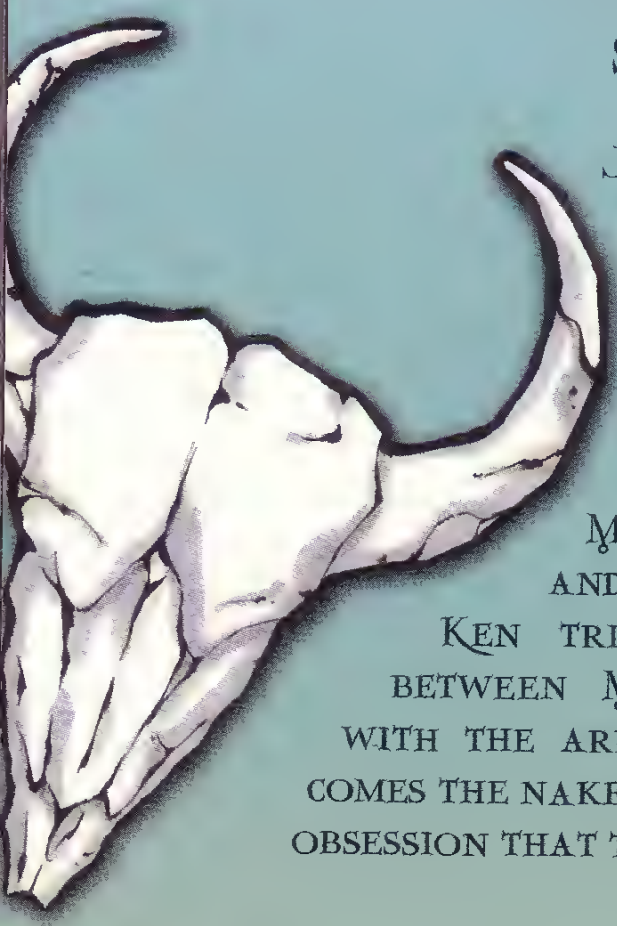

JAE UNCOVERS MORE DARK SECRETS ABOUT HER TALL, UNDEAD AND HANDSOME HOST MICHAEL, WHOSE ARTWORK SEEMS TO SPRING TO LIFE OFF THE CANVAS—LITERALLY! MEANWHILE, SEXUAL TENSION AND PASSION HEATS UP, AS KEN TRIES TO INSERT HIMSELF BETWEEN MICHAEL AND JAE. AND WITH THE ARRIVAL OF A NEW GUEST COMES THE NAKED TRUTH ABOUT A LOVING OBSESSION THAT TURNS INTO A BLOOD LUST.

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